



IN THE  
SPOTLIGHT

Special  
STARS

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# THE CHART

MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE COLLEGE, JOPLIN, MO 64801-1595  
VOLUME No. 56, Issue No. 23

Thursday, April 25, 1996

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## A GRAND OL' TIME



DEBORAH SOLOMON/The Chart

Italy's Roberto Corlano, a second-place finisher in 1994, will play first in the Missouri Southern International Piano Competition's senior division competition Friday morning.

## PHYSICAL PLANT

# Snags with fleet continue

By RYAN BRONSON  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

For the second time this season, the College's transportation fleet threw the Lion baseball team a nasty curve.

Prior to the Lions' MIAA match-up against Washburn University April 18, the College's diesel bus began leaking fuel, according to head baseball coach Warren Turner. The bus was taken to a Topeka, Kan., garage, but, according to College officials, the nearest applicable part was in Kansas City. The team was forced to rent a charter bus.

"It was just one of those things," Turner said. "We would have probably stayed another night in Topeka, but we had to get home to play Pitt State the next day."

Earlier this season on a road trip to Southwest Baptist University, the Lions didn't even make it out of Joplin before a College van broke down. Turner returned to the College to get a smaller van and a station wagon, only to have the smaller van break down on the way to Bolivar. The team crowded into the remaining van and the station wagon.

Jim Frazier, men's athletic director, said the College will soon receive two new vans, which only takes care of part of the problem. He said the athletic department mainly uses buses instead of vans because the vans hold an average of only 15 passengers.

"It will solve the van issue," Frazier said, "but we still have a minibuss issue. We use the minibusses year-round."

Frazier said he would like to see the College implement a cycle to replace aging vehicles.

"I don't see a replacement plan," he said. "We're having to rent vehicles."

"The problem has escalated."

To make matters worse, Frazier said the diesel bus was worked on in Missouri Southern's garage prior to the trip.

"We didn't even think the minibuss was available," he said.

Dr. Glenn Dolence, vice president for student services, said he agrees the College should buy new vehicles under a system.

"It's evident that we do have an aging fleet," Dolence said. "Hopefully that will be addressed."

The average odometer reading for the College's five station wagons, three vans, and two buses is more than 100,000 miles. The bus that broke down in Topeka has a reading of nearly 150,000 miles.

"Even in your own private use, whenever you start reaching 100,000 miles you start having mechanical problems," said Dolence, who said he does not believe Missouri Southern's aging fleet presents a danger to its passengers. "I personally feel we would not put a vehicle on the road if it were not adequate from a safety standpoint." □

## COLLEGE REGULATIONS

# Faculty Senate discusses Southern's 'no gun in classroom' policy

By RONNA SPARKS  
STAFF WRITER

If the student who sits next to you in history class is a police officer, he could be packing heat.

The possession of a gun on campus grounds is against Missouri Southern's policy and was discussed at a recent Faculty Senate meeting, but Dr. Blake Wolf, head of the criminal justice department, said he doesn't see a direct problem with commissioned police officers bringing their firearms to class.

"I don't see a problem with on-duty officers coming to class with guns," Wolf said. "They don't have many other options, in many instances, than to come to class. We're very fortunate that police departments allow them to work that way. I'd hate to see where that had to stop at some point in time."

This policy has been in place several years, and even the security personnel on campus don't carry firearms. Dr. Glenn Dolence, vice president for student services, said this policy is in compliance with national, state, and local laws.

"We've tried to hold to whatever the national, state, and local laws are," Dolence said. "I know it's being discussed in legislatures across the country. If the law changes and changes specifically to that effect, the College isn't going to be against it by any means."

Although Dolence said the policy is following state laws, Wolf said officers are licensed by the state to carry guns any time, any place.

Ted Griffith, senior law enforcement major and Baxter Springs, Kan., police officer, said he is accustomed to carrying his weapon

around with him on an every-day basis.

"It's very seldom that I carry a weapon into the classroom," Griffith said. "In the situations where I've been working and haven't been able to go home and leave it, I've felt safer having it with me than locked in a vehicle."

Wolf said officers are on strict time restraints when answering a call, and not having their gun with them could cause timing problems.

"They might have to respond to a call immediately, and if you're calling the police and you need one right away, I don't know

that you'll want them fumbling around, getting out keys, so they can be prepared to go," he said.

Most officers view their guns as a tool of their trade, as carpenters with their hammers, Wolf said, but Dolence questioned the appropriateness of guns in the classroom.

"To go to an Oral Communication class or history class and have a weapon strapped on, I don't think it's necessary to have that tool of their trade in an academic setting," said Dolence, who added that the College may try to work out a compromise. □

## GRADUATION 1996

### Outstanding Graduates

1973—Jeremy Dymott; 1974—Kreta Cable;  
1975—Kevin Herd; 1976—Kerry Anders;  
1977—Janice Kiser; 1978—James Moeskau;  
1979—Kathy Lay; 1980—Cherrie Dickerman;  
1981—Shawn De Graff; 1982—Shelia Peters;  
1983—Richard Alan Gibbons; 1984—Beth Barlet; 1985—Sara Beth Rice, Suzanne  
Gallagher, Todd Thelen; 1986—Christie Amos;  
1987—John Harvill; 1988—Theresa  
Honeyball; 1989—Susan Paulson, Scott Fields;  
1990—Anna Miller; 1991—Jacquelyn Johnson;  
1992—Brian Vowels, Mary Hanewinkel;  
1993—Brian Nichols; 1994—Dorcia Earlene  
Meares, Roderick Duane Smith;  
1995—Brandon Rhinehart

1996—Stacy Schoen

# Schoen honored as Outstanding Graduate

By GENIE UNDERNEHR  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

For Stacy Schoen, senior art major, learning she was selected as this year's Outstanding Graduate came as a complete surprise.

"I didn't understand that [the award] was so prestigious," she said. "I didn't even know they had an award like that. Every school recognizes its best students, so I just thought it was a [departmental] award."

"When they told me it was overall, that blew my mind," Schoen said. "I thought, 'It's crazy that it could happen to me.' It's just crazy."

Faculty members nominate students for the honor, and an awards committee

of the College's Alumni Association makes the selection based on campus activities, character, leadership, and grade-point average.

Schoen said grade-point average has always been important to her. She is finishing her college career with a 3.98 GPA.

"I wasn't valedictorian or salutatorian [in high school]," she said. "I was disappointed, but my mom said maybe I could try for it in college. But I didn't think they singled out individuals in college."

Schoen said she gets personal satisfaction from having a good GPA.

"I didn't have to keep a high grade-point average [in college] because they don't look for that in my profession," she

said. "I wanted that for me. Sometimes you become so fixated on grades that you just memorize and memorize so you do good on the tests."

Schoen said she wanted to do well for her instructors.

"They challenged me," she said. "Most of them seemed to say, 'Hey, can you do it?' so I tried to show them I could."

Schoen said she got a particular piece of advice from her photography instructor, Orjan Henriksson.

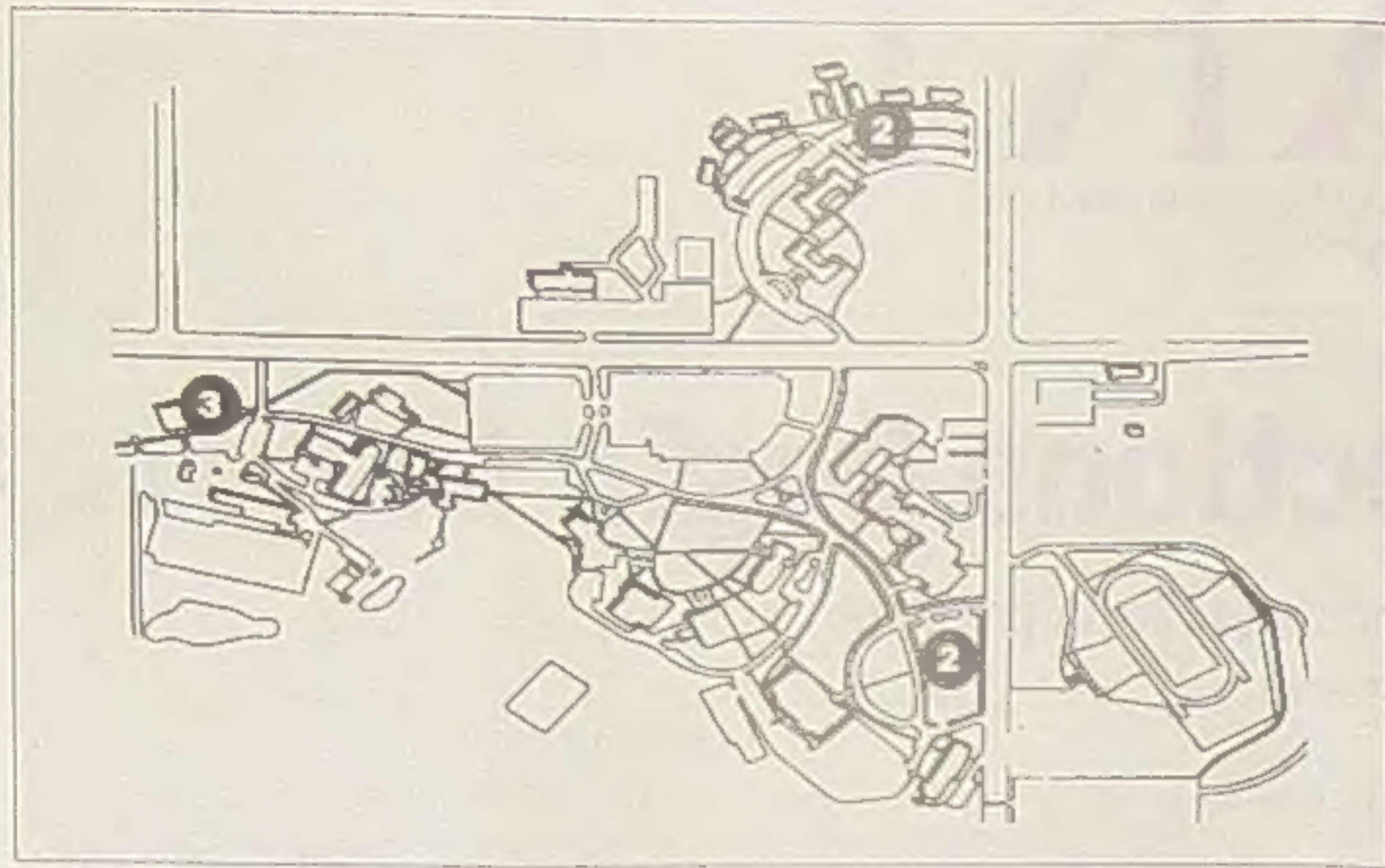
"He said, 'It just boils down to never quitting and having the passion and the drive to follow through,'" she said.

Schoen, who was also chosen as the

— Please turn to  
SCHOEN, Page 2



## SECURITY REPORT



- 1** 04/17/96 UMMEL TECHNOLOGY 10:55 a.m. Andrea Ambler, junior computer aided manufacturing technology major, was in the machine shop of the Ummel Technology building when a bead of hot tar struck her in the right arm just below the elbow, causing the skin to burn and blister. Ambler looked up and saw a crack in the roof, where more tar was falling through as a roofing crew was reroofing the building.
- 2** 04/19/96 LOT 42 1 p.m. Rebel Reed, senior sociology major, caught the lower end molding of her vehicle on a three-quarter-inch piece of rebar protruding from a parking block. Reed had attempted to back up and loosened some of the molding before she realized she was caught. With the help of campus security, Reed freed her vehicle by pulling her car forward on a flat rock, raising the front end.
- 3** 04/20/96 LOT 22 10:30 p.m. A campus security officer was patrolling the residence hall parking lot and noticed the right side door glass was broken out on a black 1988 Nissan Pulsar owned by Wardell Anderson, junior secondary education major. The officer noticed the window had been broken by someone throwing gravel at the car. There were pitted spots in the paint and some gravel inside the car, footprints on the trunk lid, and handprints on the roof and fenders.

## COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIES

## Higgins to challenge grads

Former Regent keeps strong College ties; loves health care

By RICK ROGERS  
MANAGING EDITOR

College President Julio Leon has announced local businessman and former Missouri Southern Board of Regents member Bob Higgins as the keynote speaker for this year's commencement ceremonies on May 18.

Higgins said he was quite surprised, but also pleased Leon asked him to address this year's graduating class.

"I thought generally they got one of the experts from out of town with a large briefcase to speak," Higgins said. "He (Leon) said that was not what they were looking for. He said they wanted somebody who could

challenge the students, and he asked me if I could do it."

Leon said he was looking for someone with strong ties to the College and Higgins fit the bill.

"Mr. Higgins is an excellent speaker and a person who thinks Missouri Southern is the greatest thing in this area," Leon said. "He is an optimistic, intelligent person who will give an inspiring message to our graduates."

Higgins, who served on the Board of Regents from 1983 to 1989, is an endowment development officer for the Freeman Foundation in Joplin.

"One of my loves is working with hospitals and health care, and subsequently I spend some of my time there," he said.



Higgins

Higgins said his duties with the foundation are to develop endowments through charitable trusts.

He also played a role in Southern's fight to bring the proposed Joplin Civic Center to reality March 5. He said he was an economic impact survey coordinator for the proposal.

Higgins said the main focus for his commencement speech will be to "challenge the students."

"This is an important time in their life, and I want to make them aware of what they have to do to succeed," he said.

"Each of us measures happiness and success differently, so the outcome is what they generate."

"It is not a definition of 'this is happiness and success' when that might not be for them at all," he said. "It is something they have to perceive as a sense of accomplishment in what they are doing. Then they will be successful and also happy."

## SCHOEN: Student leader earns double honors

From Page 1

Outstanding Student in Art, is graduating with a bachelor's degree in art with an emphasis in graphic design. She is currently preparing for her senior art exhibit with fellow art majors Shawn Riley and Peggy McCullum.

The exhibit will take place from 2

p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, May 5 in the Spiva Art Gallery and will feature a variety of mediums.

Schoen said she thinks people believe art majors don't have to work as hard as students with more "difficult" majors.

"Art is hard," she said. "It's not just studying or taking a test or playing a piece of music. You have

to create this piece of work and you have to draw on all these different aspects."

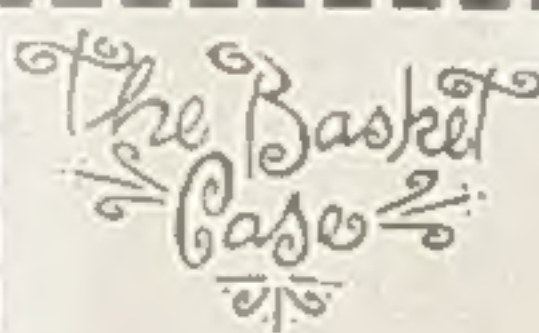
Schoen said she is anticipating her senior art exhibit because it is an example of what she has worked toward during her four years in college.

"It's the time to share a part of you," she said.

All proceeds of all advertising go to The Chart, the student newspaper of Missouri Southern State College.

## TEACH ENGLISH IN KOREA

Positions available monthly. BA or BS degree required. US \$18,500 - \$23,000/yr. Accommodation & round-trip airfare provided. Send resume, copy of diploma and copy of passport to: Bok Ji Corporation, Chun Bang Bldg., 154-13 Samsung Dong, Kang Nam Gu, Seoul, Korea 135-090. TEL: 011-82-2-555-JOBS(5627) FAX: 011-82-2-552-4FAX(4329)



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BOARD OF REGENTS

# Bodon Bill receives little consideration

Bitterbaum proposes 14 promotions to Regents

By GENIE UNDERNEHR  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Issues brought before the Board of Regents at Friday's meeting dealt mostly with Missouri Southern faculty business. Julie Chapman, student regent, reported on the Student Senate's recent activities. Chapman introduced the Bodon Bill, a recommendation from the Senate to name the College's soccer field after Dr. Hal Bodon, professor of communications.

Bodon was instrumental in creating Southern's soccer program and has announced his retirement at the end of this semester.

Dr. Jay Moorman, faculty liaison, commented on the suggestion.

"I spoke with Hal Bodon before the meeting, and he said it was 20 years ago today that he came to the Regents meeting with the whole soccer team to try to get the program started," he said.

Chapman also proposed naming the Student Life Center, which is still under construction, after Dr. Glenn Dolence, vice president for student services. The Board approved Dolence's resignation, and he will also be leaving in June.

Board President Keith Adams thanked Chapman for her suggestions.

Dr. Erik Bitterbaum, vice president for academic affairs, presented a list of 14 faculty promotions for the Board's approval.

"[The promotion criteria] is a very rigorous process," Bitterbaum said. "We have a committee of faculty charged with looking at the faculty as teachers, scholars, and citizens of this community. We want to make sure our faculty are, first and foremost, committed to teaching, and we want to promote outstanding faculty in the classroom."

STUDENT SENATE

# Senators squabble over prizes

By GENIE UNDERNEHR  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Student Senate Casino Night raised \$202.15 and was considered a relative success by all who participated.

But the senators had some prizes left over, and the question of what to do with them caused quite a stir in the ranks. Vice President Kim Jones and Secretary Stacy Mathes, the main organizers of the event, announced to the senators that they were going to hold all the prizes for next year's Casino Night.

"We're trying to do something productive with the prizes rather than just giving them all away," Mathes said.

Many senators were not happy with that solution, and were concerned about keeping prizes local companies had donated for a whole year before they were used.

The group finally decided to put the prizes in a barrel and raffle them off to interested students at the Spring Fling picnic.

"A lot of us agreed we should have a raffle,



Weedn

and it should be for \$1 [for each prize]," said Lydia Meadows, junior senator. "Some of the prizes are worth more than \$1, and some are worth less. People will take their chances."

The additional money raised from the raffle will also go to the United Way.

In other business, Student Regent Julie Chapman reported the results of Friday's Board of Regents meeting.

She said she presented the Bodon Bill, a recommendation from the Senate to name Southern's soccer field after Dr. Hal Bodon, professor of communications. She said she got little to no response from the Board.

John Weedn expressed his dissatisfaction with the administration's reaction to the bill.

"I was very upset that something didn't happen with this," he said. "We have spoken with Dr. [Julio] Leon (College president) about this at previous meetings, but he called Dr. [Glenn] Dolence (vice president for student services) about it before the meeting saying he had no idea what it was. I was shocked," Weedn said, "because I know I have talked to him personally about it."

Weedn said he doesn't know what will happen with the bill.

"I don't think this is something we should let die," said Derrick Good, senior senator. □

In other business, Dr. John Tiede, senior vice president, reported on the various construction projects in progress.

"We will have a preconstruction meeting with the contractor and the subcontractors for Reynolds Hall," he said. "The bid has been let, and we should hit the ground running as soon as finals are over. They are already ordering materials."

Tiede has plans to start working on the bid document for the Anderson Justice Center, and he said the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning plans were close to completion.

Also, the College is clearing some land east of Hughes Stadium for a second softball field.

"In conjunction with that, Sallie Beard (women's athletic director) has received donations to work toward a building between the two fields, and the National Guard will donate labor," Tiede said. "We have extended the utilities in that area." □

PRIVATE TUTORING



Kezhen Liu, a Fulbright Scholar from China, tutors 10-year-old Kenny Leemon, who wanted to learn Chinese for five years because he "thought it was a cool language."

# Teaching LANGUAGES

## Instructor influences 10-year-old in Chinese

Liu views eager student as 'something special'

By DEBORAH SOLOMON  
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Not many students take the incentive to study a foreign language, but for one young boy, being able to learn Chinese is something he has wanted to do for quite a while.

Kenny Leemon is a 10-year-old who has wanted to learn Chinese for five years because "I thought it was a cool language."

Leemon's mother, Linda, is a senior psychology major at Missouri Southern. During a communications class she learned about Kezhen Liu, a Fulbright Scholar from China.

"I talked to Dr. [Allen] Merriam (professor of communications) after class and told him my son had wanted to take Chinese since he was 5 or 6," Leemon said.

"He introduced me to Mr. Liu. I asked him if he would be willing to teach Kenny, and he said sure. It was almost too easy."

Two weeks into the spring semester, Kenny started learning Chinese.

"After two or three classes it was exciting [for him] to learn Chinese," Liu said. "Now it is getting more difficult, but he is a hard worker."

Liu said he is proud of Kenny because he has stuck with the language.

"When I started the semester, I had 15 students in my class; now I have only

5," he said. "Sometimes people come to my class because they want credit, but sometimes people come to my class because they want knowledge."

"When a small boy comes to me and wants to learn Chinese, I think that is extra special."

Leemon said her son is learning, even though she can't help him.

"I was really surprised when I sat down with him and he knew so much," she said. "He has been quiet about learning, but looking through his notebook, he knows what most of the characters are. They mean something to him."

Kenny arrives around 3 p.m. every Monday and Wednesday, to spend about 45 minutes with Liu. Although the language is harder than he expected, he likes it.

"My favorite thing is to write the characters," Kenny said.

"It is the best part of learning the language. I think it is a good thing to teach children to speak a different language at a young age," Liu said. "They are more open to something different, and they can remember it better than adults can."

Leemon said the experience has been a good one, and she hopes to continue.

"The exposure to someone so intelligent and fluent in Chinese has been wonderful," she said. "It is different than learning from someone who is not a native."

Kenny isn't sure whether he would like to continue with Chinese or another language, but with summer coming he will put his learning experience on hold until next semester. □

# SOUTHERN NEWS BRIEFS

SPJ names The Chart best non-daily newspaper

For the second year in a row, *The Chart* has been named the best non-daily student newspaper in the Society of Professional Journalists' regional Mark of Excellence competition.

*The Chart* competed in SPJ's Region 7, consisting of colleges in Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, and Nebraska. Northeast Missouri State University finished second, and Central Missouri State University was third.

First-place winners from each region will compete for the national Mark of Excellence award at SPJ's national convention in Washington, D.C. in September.

*The Chart* also won a first-place award for in-depth reporting in the Region 7 competition for "The price we pay," a 20-page supplement to the March 30, 1995, edition of the newspaper. □

Art students to host pottery sale Monday

Ceramic students at Missouri Southern will host their annual spring pottery show and sale Monday through Wednesday, May 15.

Highlights of the show will be functional and non-functional, hand-made pottery and porcelain and earthenware clays.

A feature of the show will be a demonstration of RAKU, an ancient Japanese technique for making pottery.

That demonstration will take place from 3 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday; Wednesday, Monday, May 6; and Wednesday, May 8.

"RAKU is a centuries-old, quick Japanese method of creating pottery," said Jon Fowler, professor of art.

Visitors will be able to see a finished piece of pottery in about 30 to 45 minutes.

Most pieces on display will be available for purchase.

The works are creations of beginning and advanced ceramics students.

They are: Kris Graves, Bartlett, Kan.; Helena Beasley, Carl Junction; Cristina Buntin, Cassville; Jean Schroter and Mark Sweet, both of Joplin; Ryan Butler, Parsons, Kan.; and Gary Crim, Washburn.

The show and sale in the main lobby of the art building will be open to the public from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays, and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sundays.

For additional information, persons may call 625-9735. □

Honors convocation to recognize students

The 20th annual honors convocation at Missouri Southern will take place at 11 a.m. Wednesday in the Taylor Performing Arts Center.

Ninety-seven Southern students who were initiated into the Missouri Iota Chapter of Alpha Chi, a national academic honor society, will be recognized at the convocation and again during the College's commencement ceremonies May 18.

To be eligible for membership in Alpha Chi, students must have a cumulative grade-point average of 3.7 or above at the time they apply for graduation.

More than 50 other students will also be recognized at the convocation as outstanding in their academic departments.

Four students will receive special awards of recognition in addition to those receiving the Spencer-Bartlett Respect Awards and Outstanding Graduate Award. Nineteen students will also be recognized as graduates of the honors program.

Following the ceremony, the students and their families will be guests at a reception in Phinney Hall, located in the Taylor Performing Arts Center. □

# COLONEL 'BLAND'ERS



SPENCER BECK/The Chart

Albert Bland (right), senior communications major, goes to work on a variety of meat while Parris Smith, junior theatre major, gives some cooking instructions outside Dryer Hall at the residence halls.

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

# Jolly recovers in hospital, will miss rest of semester

By MICHAEL DAVISON  
ARTS EDITOR

Jack Jolly, assistant professor of mathematics, is in intensive care at Freeman Health Center West and will miss the remainder of the semester.

"He will stay there for some time. Nobody knows what is wrong with him," said Dr. Juan Vazquez, head of the mathematics department. "Since we are not family, the hospital won't tell us what is exactly wrong with him."

Last fall, Jolly took a sick leave, but Vazquez said he had returned to

his teaching duties this semester.

"He was doing good," Vazquez said, "but then he goes to the hospital."

This sentiment was echoed by fellow faculty member Patrick Cassens.

"I was surprised because he looked good," said Cassens, professor of mathematics. "We don't know if it's related, but when you get sick, anything can happen."

He visited Jolly over the weekend, taking him letters wishing him well from area high school teachers involved with Math League.

"He wanted to talk about the letters but couldn't because he was hooked up to all the equipment," Cassens said.

Jolly came to Southern in 1968, and his future at the College depends on how he recovers. □



Jolly



## EDITOR'S COLUMN

## Don't ever give up on your goals

**M**y mother always told me, "Respect your elders and listen closely to what they have to say because they have been around a while and know what they are talking about."

So like any good son, I listened to my mother. She was my elder, and I believed she knew what she was talking about.

But in my adulthood, I have found out that many of my elders do not have a clue and often use age as a weapon against helpless youths. I was shy when I was younger and did everything I was told. When



**Craig Beffa**  
Editorial Editor

I was in high school, I was like any other student—confused about where I was going with my life.

After thinking it over, I decided I wanted to be a journalist. I felt I could help the media because I thought I could do a better job than those people who were doing it. My junior year I enrolled in journalism with Mrs. Brooks.

I liked writing for the newspaper, and I thought "This was what I want to be when I grow up." So the next year, I enrolled in advanced journalism and became the news and features editor. I put my heart and soul into the newspaper; I worked extremely hard.

One day when we were selling newspapers at lunch, my teacher told me I should think about going into public relations because I have a better people personality and my writing skills were not too good. I was crushed. I liked what I was doing.

So I thought that since she was my elder, she knew what she was talking about. If she said I wasn't good enough, then I must not be good enough to be a journalist.

So my heart was no longer in wanting to be one. After I graduated high school and went on to a community college, I went in not knowing what I wanted to be. I thought about becoming a psychologist, because I like helping people, so I took psychology classes.

But I didn't like them too well. I liked writing, but according to Mrs. Brooks, I was not good enough to be a journalist.

My second year in college, I finally came to the conclusion that it did not matter what she said to me, it is my life.

So I took feature writing and slowly, very slowly, came back into writing for a newspaper again. Not until I enrolled in news writing and became assistant news editor did I put my heart and soul back into journalism again. And I loved it.

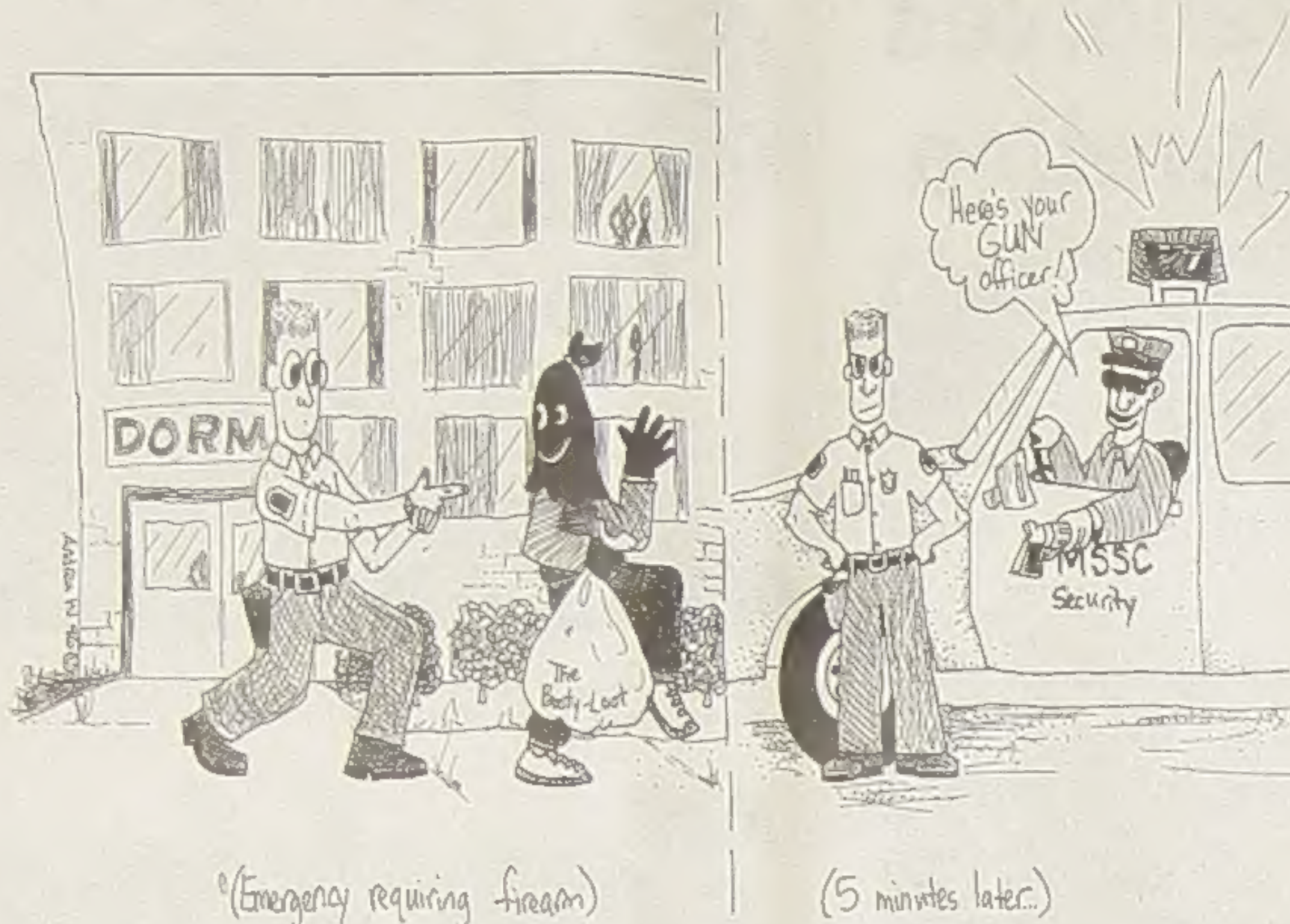
Now I am editor-in-chief of *Crossroads: The Magazine* and actually have a goal in my life. After I graduate, I want to work for a magazine in St. Louis and go to graduate school. Within five years, I hope to work for *Entertainment Weekly*.

I do not think teachers understand how much of a pull they have on their students.

Students look up to their teachers and take to heart whatever they say, whether it be good or bad. I would not be doing what I like if I listened and took to heart what my teacher told me.

If someone wants something bad enough, they should not give up on their goal. No matter what criticisms, don't let them break you.

It is your life. Don't let anyone control your life. □



## OUR EDITORIALS

Unsigned editorials on this page express the opinions of a majority of The Chart editors. Observations elsewhere on the page represent independent viewpoints of columnists, cartoonists, and readers.

## College is no place for guns

**A** discussion about guns in the classroom presented itself at the April 15 Faculty Senate meeting, but it shouldn't have been much of a discussion.

Allowing commissioned police officers to carry firearms into an academic learning environment can only be described one way...dangerous.

In a country where newscasts are filled with stories about violence in the classroom, children murdering children for basketball shoes, and hundreds of accidents related to misuse of firearms, the concept of students—police officers or otherwise—bringing guns into a classroom should be nothing short of frightening.

It is not necessary for on-duty officers to carry their weapons to class. Officers turn over their weapons before

entering a courtroom, so why can't Missouri Southern set up a similar system?

Apparently, police officers sometimes attend class while on duty. That in itself is upsetting considering Missouri's tight-fisted taxpayers. Our police officers should get paid to protect our homes and businesses, not to attend classes.

Granted, a situation could occur in a classroom where an armed police officer might prevent a serious problem, but the chances are better that the scenario would escalate into a life-or-death situation. Surely a police officer can see the danger in carrying a weapon into a crowded room of young adults who have little or no experience with firearms.

Also, students should be treated as equals in the eye of the College. Why should one student—police officer or not—receive special privileges? □

## Give Bodon Bill some respect

**O**n Friday, April 19 the Missouri Southern Board of Regents swept aside an opportunity to recognize a retiring faculty member.

Student Regent Julie Chapman presented the Bodon Bill, a motion proposing the MSSC soccer field be named Dr. Harold "Hal" Bodon Field, to the Board of Regents.

Chapman received a "thank you" for her remarks before the Board moved on to other business.

Bodon began the soccer program as an intramural sport in 1972. On April 19, 1976 (exactly 20 years prior to the afore-mentioned Regents meeting) Coach Bodon and his team stood in front of the Board asking to make soccer an official part of Missouri Southern's athletic department.

Bodon, professor of communication, has been a part of many of Missouri Southern's accomplishments over the years, aside from soccer. He has taught in foreign languages for 25 years, assisted in the honors convocation, and has been the initial coordinator for the Modern Foreign Language Field Day for area high schools.

Bodon has given many years of excellence to Southern athletics and academics, and should be formally recognized for his contributions.

We urge the Board of Regents to reconsider such an opportunity if it again comes to the table.

It's really not asking much to honor a man who has contributed to so many facets of the College. □

## YOUR LETTERS

The Chart welcomes letters from readers. Letters must be signed and include a phone number for verification. Letters should be 300 words or fewer. Submit letters to The Chart office on the third floor of Webster Hall, fax them to (417) 625-9742, or send via E-mail. Our E-mail address: TheChart@aol.com. Letters are due by noon Monday for publication in that week's edition.

## Peterson greatly influences life, education

**I** recently learned from a friend that Dr. Vernon "Ben" Peterson will be retiring at the end of this semester. If this is indeed correct, Missouri Southern will be hard pressed to fill the void.

In my time at Southern, I encountered many instructors who greatly influenced my life and my education. I can say without reservation that Dr. Peterson influenced both in the most positive manner imaginable.

While all members of the College's foreign language faculty will tell you my attendance wasn't the best, they never questioned my interest in Spanish. Dr. Peterson took it further. He worked with me personally and cut me some slack. He made me regret missing his class. Not

because of guilt or punitive measures, but because he was so enthusiastic it made me enthusiastic, too. He has a love for Spanish and Hispanic culture that is contagious. I didn't just want to speak Spanish, I wanted to think it and (yes, I know how silly we thought it at the time) sing it.

Dr. Peterson didn't just help me wish to reconnect to my Hispanic roots, he helped me do it, too. My mother's health declined this winter and I had to communicate with relatives in Puerto Rico.

Many of them do not speak ANY English. I found a way. We were able to speak, hug, and console each other across the miles and the language gap.

This is the greatest gift I have ever been given, and the faculty at Southern (Dr.

Peterson in particular) gave it to me.

Mom is better now, and we spend an hour each day working on my Spanish. It is no longer a core requirement for me, it is a life skill.

For all those who sit through a class and wonder "How will I use this?" I challenge you to turn the question around and ask instead "How can I use this?"

To Dr. Peterson I wish much happiness and much joy. He has helped me and many others to achieve both.

T.R. Hanrahan  
Communications major, 1990-95

## IN PERSPECTIVE

## Illusions: well worth a dime

**I**t is the 1930s in the United States, the years of the Great Depression. A woman comes back from work. She enters into her room, approaches a table, and dumps out the contents of her purse onto the table. She looks at a few coins that are her salary for the day, and picks a dime. She takes it and carefully puts it aside, under the kitchen sink by the stove. What is the dime for?

The answer is "for the movies." The story comes from *The Last Tycoon* by F. Scott Fitzgerald. It is told by a leader in the motion-picture industry, the romantic hero Monroe Stahr, who is

trying to explain why his business is booming at a time when people can barely survive. For a dime one can always evade this, the worst of the possible worlds. At the same time and for the same price, one buys the right to forget about oneself, or that part of the self that we hate the most: the worries and troubles.

Then as today, illusion is always well worth a dime. Stahr makes a point but leaves us wondering "Why the movies?" Later on, he gives us the answer: "Our condition is that we have to take people's own favorite folklore and dress it up and give it back to them." We love films because they are the most accessible of the narratives: short, sharp, and conclusive. In them, like it is often said, the stuff dreams are made up of becomes possible and concrete. Feelings are transformed into gestures, thoughts are articulated in movements, and visions and relationships are shaped by setting. The realm of our fantasies appears to us dressed up as a visible and possible world.

Our fascination with films, which is not even a century old, happens to be an extension of our fascination with narrative. Moreover, in contemporary culture films seem to have replaced all other forms of narrative. Films are always (it is true) stories told in images. Some of them are very convincing, and some of them, extremely far-fetched. Very often, they are interesting enough to keep us glued to a seat for two hours or more. Films are stories that provoke our immediate reaction, unlike the books that we read. And most of the time we care about them; we like them or not. This fact alone should be enough to make us take them seriously. To understand the films that we like is to understand ourselves better. They tell us a lot about our fancies, hopes, and aspirations, and they are an insight into our own nature, at least according to one of Fitzgerald's characters.

But films can also give us an insight into other people's nature. Or they can be, like the director Luis Bunuel wanted them to be, a reminder that we do not live in the best of worlds. Whatever we decide to make of them, films, the movies, are stories condensing movement and time in images that we need to read attentively.

However, in order to read, one has to learn to read. This is precisely what a new course offered this intersession, The Fundamentals of Film Appreciation, is trying to do. In it, we will compare the dream-like qualities of the surrealist story ("Un chien andalou") against the well-structured

— Please turn to  
TALAVERA, Page 5



**Pedro L. Talavera-Ibarra**  
Assistant Professor  
of Communications

THE  
CHART

Genie Undernehr  
Editor-in-Chief

Best Non-Daily Student Newspaper in SPJ's Region VII (1995, 1996)  
ACP Pacemaker Finalist (1982, 1986, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1994)  
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The Chart, the newspaper of Missouri Southern State College, is published weekly, except during holidays and examination periods, from August through May, by students in communications as a laboratory experience. Views expressed do not represent the opinions of the administration, faculty, or the student body.



STUDENT TEACHER

# Children keep Cooper on her toes



Rhonda Cooper talks with second graders after their Dino-band practice during P.E. Monday afternoon. Students from Thomas Jefferson will perform their Dino-band act Friday for Grandparents' day.

By ALICE CARLSON  
STAFF WRITER

In a world with such a varied job market, becoming a physical education teacher seemed a natural choice for Rhonda Cooper.

"I decided to be a teacher because I enjoy playing, so to speak," said Cooper, who came to Missouri Southern on a track and cross country scholarship, "and because I like to watch the kids play."

During her college career, Cooper has been actively involved in several activities. Of these, track and field, the International Club, and Omicron Delta Kappa, a national leadership honor society, have taken up most of her spare time.

After graduating in May, Cooper plans to attend Boise State University, where she will pursue her graduate degree. Cooper has been student

teaching for the past six weeks. She teaches physical education for prekindergarten through the 11th grade at Thomas Jefferson Independent Day School.

Although she has had some practice in the area of teaching, teaching actual children is a new experience for Cooper.

"I have done a little bit of peer teaching," she said. "Your peers can act like kids, but it is different with real children."

Student teaching "is very enjoyable," she said. "It challenges me and it keeps me on my toes."

Cooper offers some advice that has helped her throughout her college career.

"Get into something you enjoy, and don't let opportunities pass you by," she said. "Seek out what you want to do—don't expect it to come to you."

"I challenge myself and go after those challenges and goals and I enjoy it," Cooper said. □

## HIGHER EDUCATION BRIEFS



### NEMO moniker, logo to change July 1

When Northeast Missouri State University's name officially changes to Truman State University on July 1, the university will have a new logo to complement the new moniker.

Soon after Gov. Mel Carnahan signed Senate Bill 340 in June 1995 changing the name of Northeast to Truman State University, President Jack Magruder called on four alumni designers to volunteer their talents to create the university's new logo. All four accepted the challenge.

Initial designs were presented to the university's clearinghouse committee in November 1995.

The committee included students, faculty, staff, and alumni who were charged with helping guide the university through the transition from Northeast to Truman.

Final logo presentations were made in March.

After selecting a logo, the committee presented its recommendations to Magruder.

"We are most appreciative of the outstanding effort from these great designers," he said. "Their commitment and personal service to the university has provided a professional logo for Truman State University that has a classic and distinctive look and a connection to our past."

Changing the university's name of Truman State University coincides with the 10th anniversary of the Missouri legislature changing Northeast's mission from that of a regional comprehensive university to the statewide liberal arts and sciences university.

The new name, Truman State University, will provide the university with a name that now complements its statewide mission. □

### Phonathon raises more than hoped at MWSC

The Missouri Western State College Alumni Association has raised \$141,821 from its month-long Annual Fund Phonathon. This year's goal was \$120,000.

The purpose of the Annual Fund is to raise money for student scholarships and alumni services. In addition to more than \$70,000 in departmental and affiliated scholarships, the Alumni Association last year awarded 27 scholarships to students through funds generated by the phonathon. □

### NMSU to renovate stadium for \$890,000

Northwest Missouri State University will renovate Rickenbrode Stadium and the Herschel Neil Track at an estimated cost of \$890,000.

Rickenbrode Stadium and the Neil Track are used not only for intercollegiate athletics, but by academic classes, campus recreation, and Maryville community patrons.

The renovations have become necessary because of a drainage system that, due to age and soil shifts, was not handling heavy rains. The drainage also caused the deterioration of the football field crown.

Two other projects at Rickenbrode Stadium have already begun. A new concession/restroom facility is planned for the southwest corner of the stadium, and the press box will be renovated.

These improvements will enable Northwest to bid to host national and regional NCAA competitions in the future. □

## COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

# SOHISPRO expands knowledge, vocabulary

SPENCER BECK  
STAFF WRITER

Students may not be aware they have a place to practice the Spanish they learn in class. SOHISPRO, Sociedad Hispano-Norteamericana Pro-Educacion, is an association at Missouri Southern that educates people about the Spanish culture.

Since Sept. 19, 1991, a group of people have met to expand their knowledge and vocabulary.

"It is an association of people that have more than a passive interest in the Spanish speaking world," said Dr. Ben Peterson, professor of Spanish. "It's a place to bridge any gaps between the Spanish and English worlds."

SOHISPRO meets on the fourth Thursday of each month from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in Room 105 or 106 of Webster Hall.

The meeting provides an atmosphere to discuss a variety of topics related to the Spanish world, including music, art, and even economic problems. At each meeting, speakers who are natives of other countries discuss topics of their choice.

"It is a place that provides an alternative place to discuss movies, theaters, sports, and many other things that are interesting and captivating," Peterson said.

"SOHISPRO is ideal to establish friendships and a point of reference about travel, society, health, and other facts of life."

Carlos Rivera attends the meetings and has served as a guest speaker.

"Learning another language is beneficial for students because the world is becoming smaller and smaller," he said. □

## SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT

# Travels equal more class material

## Gubera hoping to better his teaching technique through Arabian trip

LESLIE ROBERTS  
EDUCATION EDITOR

Reading books and watching films have educational value for history teachers, but sometimes nothing compares to visiting the places where the history actually happened.

Dr. Conrad Gubera, professor of sociology and a fellow with the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations, is planning to take a trip to Morocco, Tunisia, and Andalusia June 20 through July 24.

"There are 250 of us [in the Council] across the United States, and they try to get as many of us involved in traveling abroad to the Arab world as possible," he said.

Gubera has traveled to the Arab world before, but this time he will be going to a completely different area.

"This will be the first time that I've ever been in the west," he said. "Most of our studies are too oftentimes, I think, obscured or deeply influenced by the Middle East and the Arab coun-

tries in the Middle East, and so I'm really excited about seeing North Africa for the first time."

Gubera believes going on this trip will help him teach his classes.

"I'm going to enhance my knowledge of the Arab world because that's a class I teach, and to enhance my knowledge of the so-called 'West Arabs,'" he said.

Gubera said he is excited about seeing the ruins of the ancient city-state Carthage, which are located in Tunisia, and also about seeing the Rock of Gibraltar, Casablanca, and the south side of the Mediterranean Sea.

"I think I'll bring back a whole different view of the Arab world from the historical side," he said.

The \$3,000 cost of the trip is being shared by Gubera, the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations, and the College.

"I am thankful to Dr. [Erik] Bitterbaum (vice president for academic affairs), who is going to help me in part, and the MSSC Foundation, which has awarded me a grant, and the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations picks up part of it," he said.

Bitterbaum thinks faculty trips such as this one are important to the College's international mission.

"I think that it's wonderful that we can encourage faculty to take advantage of these opportunities to go abroad," Bitterbaum said. "I believe Dr. Gubera will be bringing a wealth of new infor-

"I think I'll bring back a whole different view of the Arab world from the historical side."

Dr. Conrad Gubera  
Sociology professor



Gubera

information back to his classroom." Since this will be Gubera's fourth trip to the Arab world, he is looking forward to meeting new people and also possibly seeing those he has met on other trips.

Although living with a group of people for more than five weeks could lead to difficulties, Gubera says he has grown to like most of the people he's met "for their own individual selves."

"Particularly the people that you run into in the Arab world, because that's such an unusually harsh condition that it takes a special caliber of person to put themselves in that position," he said.

"You've got to know, for instance, that things aren't going to be as easy as you might have thought they were going to be." □

## TALAVERA: Film provokes rapid reaction

From Page 4

story of *Citizen Kane*, for example. We will see the jewel of Italian neorealism in *The Bicycle Thief* and its post-modern counterpart, *The Iceberg*. We will also examine two different interpretations of the relation between illusion and truth in the films, one by Buster Keaton and Arbuckle, another Woody Allen. We will talk about expressionism, and we'll explain what minimalism means as a technique in narrative. In short, we will travel as far as Russia with Eisenstein, and as close as Italy with Scola.

The Fundamentals of Film Appreciation is the first in a series of courses about filmic narrative to be developed at Southern this and next academic year. The same course, under a different name, will be offered by the English department, where it really belongs. In addition, a new course on World Cinema is also going to be taught on campus next year.

Without any doubt, these offerings will expand the academic horizons at Southern in the future. But in the meantime, any student who is interested can go to the kitchen sink by the stove, retrieve the dimes saved, pay the tuition, and start analyzing his or her fantasies. □



## Surprise your folks.

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# CAMPUS CALENDAR

S M T W T F S  
28 29 30 1 25 26 27

Today 25

8 a.m. to 5 p.m.—  
Senior Art Shows, Monday-Friday through May 10. Spiva Art Gallery.  
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.—  
Koinonia Campus Ministries, basement of Stegge Hall.  
Noon to 1 p.m.—  
Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship, Billingsly Student Center, Room 311.  
12:20 p.m.—  
Model United Nations meeting, Webster Hall, Room 205.  
2 p.m.—  
National Broadcasting Society AERho meeting, MSTV Studio.  
3:30 p.m.—  
Saddle Club meeting, officer elections, Billingsly Student Center, Room 313.

Friday 26

Noon—  
Psychology Club/Psi Chi meeting, Taylor Education & Psychology, Room 123.  
Noon to 1 p.m.—  
Brown Bag Lunch, Billingsly Student Center, Room 314.  
3 p.m.—  
Boxcar races (rescheduled), sponsored by Campus Activities Board, Matthews parking lot.

Sunday 28

9:30 a.m.—  
BSU Bible Studies, Baptist Student Union.

Monday 29

7 p.m.—  
BSU Bible Studies, Baptist Student Union.

Tuesday 30

11 a.m.—  
Newman Club, Catholic organization meeting, Billingsly Student Center, Room 306.  
Noon—  
Latter-Day Saints Student Association meeting, Billingsly Student Center, Room 313.  
Noon—  
College Republicans meeting, Billingsly Student Center, Room 311.  
12:15 p.m.—  
Young Democrats meeting, Billingsly Student Center, Room 306.  
12:20 p.m.—  
Arab League Meeting, Webster Hall, Room 212.

Wednesday 1

5:30 p.m.—  
Student Senate meeting, Billingsly Student Center, Room 310.

Thursday 2

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.—  
Koinonia Campus Ministries, basement of Stegge Hall.  
Noon to 1 p.m.—  
Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship, Billingsly Student Center, Room 311.  
12:20 p.m.—  
Model United Nations meeting, Webster Hall, Room 205.  
2 p.m.—  
National Broadcasting Society AERho meeting, MSTV Studio.

## Attention Clubs

If you have an upcoming meeting or event you would like publicized in The Chart call Elizabeth at 625-9311

## STUDENT SENATE

# Presidential elections heat up

## Miller views position as service to students

By ELIZABETH LOVLAND  
CAMPUS EDITOR

The position of Missouri Southern's Student Senate president involves making key decisions, but presidential candidate Grant Miller also sees it as a service to the students.

"I've had a lot of leadership roles," said Miller, junior education major.

"It is something that is very enjoyable and a lot of responsibility, of course. But I feel I have something to offer to the organization itself."

Even though this was Miller's first year on Student Senate, he was encouraged by some of his friends to run for president.

Kim Jones, junior criminal justice major and Senate vice president, said Miller is dedicated and committed to the organization.

"He's very responsible," Jones said. "I think we could get a lot done with him as president."

Miller served on the United Way and student affairs committees with Jones.

"Every time you need something done, he's always there," she said.

Miller said he thinks he could make a difference at Southern if elected president.

"There are several things that I would like to see continued, like the sidewalk they are hopefully going to construct between the two Taylors (buildings)," he said.

"I just want to make sure things like that are carried through."

Some of Miller's other responsibilities include being vice president of the Student Missouri State Teacher's Association (he will be presi-

dent next year), member of World Issues for Study by Educators, a College Orientation leader, and member of Show-Me theatre group.

"I don't know if it (being busy) is a sickness or what," he said, "but I really enjoy it."

One of Miller's accomplishments was having a lead role in *Orphans* last fall. *Orphans*, a student-directed play presented by Southern Theatre, was chosen to perform for the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival.

"We were one of six productions chosen out of 172 from an eight-state region," Miller said. "It was the first production to make it from Missouri Southern."

He also received an honorable mention award for his acting in the play.

Like many students attending college, Miller decided to change his major.

"I was a theatre major my first year, but changed it to a minor," he said. "It was a confusing time trying to figure out what I wanted to do."

The transition from theatre to education was not a difficult one for Miller.

He said the skills he learned in theatre will also help him in the education field.

"Teaching is like acting," Miller said. "It's performance in front of people."

Miller said he has discovered things about Southern that are unique and special.

"For example, the program that I'm in, the middle school program, everyone in Missouri is moving to the certification requirement," he said.

"Our school's curriculum and course work are going to be serving as a model for other colleges and universities in the area to follow."

“



*It is something that is very enjoyable, and a lot of responsibility, of course. But I feel I have something to offer to the organization itself.*

Grant Miller  
Student senator

”

“



*I feel that I have been given a lot of gifts and I've always looked for ways to use those gifts to other people's advantage.*

Derrick Good  
Student senator

”

## Good hopes to use gifts to students' advantage

By RICK ROGERS  
MANAGING EDITOR

Missouri Southern Student Senate presidential candidate Derrick Good's interest in politics is nothing new.

The 22-year-old Student Senate presidential candidate said he had an eye for politics most of his life.

"I feel that I have been given a lot of gifts and I've always looked for ways to use those gifts to other people's advantage," said Good, a senior criminal justice major. "I have always thought that politics is somewhere that I could make a dent. One of my long-term goals in life is to be involved in politics because I want to make a difference by reaching people."

Because of a heavy workload outside of his classes, Good said he never had time to join the Senate until last fall.

Good said he thinks the Senate's job is representing the student body and keeping in touch with the students' needs and wants.

"I think we (the senate) have been a little more visible this year in getting out there with the students and talking about the students' opinions, especially first semester," he said. "I think for a while it kind of got away from that. People did not know we the senators were and they didn't tell them their idea. Therefore, we couldn't discuss them."

Good said if he is elected president, he does not want the Senate's agenda to be his alone, but for it to be in the hands of the students.

"I want to see what the issues are out there," he said.

Tony Hayibor, a freshman pre-medicine major and member of Student Senate, said Good is a logical choice for president.

"I think Good would be a great president because of his presence

on this campus," Hayibor said.

In addition to his involvement in Southern politics, Good said he is happy to be a part of the College's criminal justice program. He acquired an internship at Six Flags over Mid-America this summer through the criminal justice program.

"I talked the criminal justice program up with the Six Flags people and they were impressed," Good said.

"They are even considering a long-term relationship with our criminal justice program. With the \$5 million (building) addition, I think the program is going to be something else."

Because the criminal justice program does not have any honor societies, Good said it sent out its petition for the Alpha Phi Sigma society last week.

With the additional construction of Anderson Justice Center beginning this fall and the possibility of having an honor society, Good said the future of Southern's criminal justice majors looks bright.

"I think many people (across the street from Anderson Justice Center) kind of look down on us," he said. "I think people say that being a criminal justice major is the easiest major on campus, and I really want to get away from that."

Good and his wife, Wendi, a senior biology major and a member of the Student Senate, were married in August 1993.

He said finding time to fit a wife, school, and his involvement in campus organizations is at times overbearing.

"My wife is the president of the Alpha Sigma Alpha and is also really involved on campus," he said. "We see each other a little bit here and there."

## CAMPUS ACTIVITIES BOARD

# Cold weather postpones boxcar races

By RUSTY WELLS  
STAFF WRITER

The Campus Activities Board has rescheduled the boxcar races for 3 p.m. Friday in the Matthews Hall parking lot. The event originally was planned for April 1.

"It was rescheduled because of the cold weather," said Jason Foster, special events chairperson. "It also gives a chance for a better turnout."

According to Foster, getting students involved in campus activities is difficult. He believes it is due to the student body makeup.

"We are a commuter school, whereas at other colleges the majority of the students live on campus," Foster said. He also said it is because there are more non-traditional students attending Southern.

"We have poor student participation," said Spencer Beck, CAB vice president. "We put into it as much as we can. Just getting them there is the problem."

Foster does have a possible solution for lack of student involvement, which begins with first-year students.

"We need to pump up awareness and involvement in the freshmen," he said. "We also need to install

enthusiasm in them. If you get older students to get the younger ones involved, it would help. Getting bigger names to come in also helps."

Other suggestions for increased involvement include promotions, such as chalk on sidewalks. Flyers are a good form of promotion, but according to Foster, it is not always effective.

"We put flyers on the bulletin boards, but they never get cleaned off so it is hard to read the messages," he said.

Foster's personal goal in the CAB is to "think of something cheap that people will like."

## ROLLIN' DICE



Leslie Craig, freshman undecided major, shoots craps at Casino Night, sponsored by Student Senate, in the BSC Thursday evening.

# "Life Is Too Short To Drink Cheap Beer"

## DOMESTIC & IMPORTED BEER (BOTTLED)

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Full Sale Nut Brown Ale  
Full Sale Amber Ale  
Sapporo  
Moretti  
Peroni  
Spaten  
Grolsch  
Rolling Rock  
Hornsby Draft Cider  
Belgian Beers  
Chimay Ale  
Leffe Bloud Ale  
Bell-Vue Fromboise  
Bell-Vue Kriek  
Hoegaarden White Ale  
German Beers  
Hefe-Weizen  
Bavarian Alpine Extreme  
Salvator

## IMPORTED BEER (DRAUGHT)

Bass Ale - England  
Guinness XX Stout - Ireland  
Harps Lager - Ireland  
Heineken - Holland  
Moosehead - Canada  
Newcastle Brown - England  
Pilsner Urquell - Czechoslovakia  
Warsteiner - Germany

## DOMESTIC BEER (DRAUGHT)

Anchor Steam  
Amber Bock  
Budweiser  
Bud Light  
Busch  
Coors Light  
Killians Irish Red  
Miller Lite  
Red Dog  
Red Hook ESB  
Samuel Adams-Boston Lager  
Boulevard-Bully Porter  
Boulevard-Irish Ale  
Boulevard-Wheat Unfiltered  
Boulevard-Ten Penny  
Boulevard-Pale Ale



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BUSINESS DEPARTMENT



Scott Donaldson, senior business major and manager of Joplin's Boston Market, carries 12 hours at Southern and works at least 50 hours per week. He is scheduled to graduate in May and has a goal to own his own franchise.

## Donaldson drives for more success

Business major serves as Boston Market manager, hopes to own franchise

By SHANDY MCBRIDE  
CHART REPORTER

Who attends school 12 hours and works 50 hours a week, spends time with his wife, and still manages to find a moment for himself?

Scott Donaldson, senior general business major, says he is an "ambitious" person. "That's what makes me...me," Donaldson said. "I am constantly driving for something better, and I never rest until I've got what I want."

Donaldson, manager of Boston Market in Joplin, plans to continue working there after graduation.

Donaldson said he chose business because he enjoyed the accounting and computer classes he took at Riverton (Kan.) High School.

"My goal is to one day own my own franchise," he said, "and I believe having a degree will help."

"I chose Missouri Southern because of the financial aid and because everyone seemed to be concerned about me as an individual and not just my money," Donaldson said.

"Parking is a definite downer, but I like the smaller classes, the availability of the instructors, and the challenge."

Donaldson said Dr. Beverly Block, professor of business, was his favorite instructor because "she guided me through a few tough spots in my life. She always kept me focused on my education, and she cared enough to be a friend not just an instructor."

Donaldson said his Strategic Management class is his favorite.

"I love the challenge of the class, but it takes up most of my study time," he said.

"That's what makes me...me. I am constantly driving for something better, and I never rest until I've got what I want."

Scott Donaldson  
Senior business major

Donaldson's hobbies include playing basketball, fishing, and golfing.

Donaldson has worked full-time throughout his college career.

Some jobs included the customer service manager at Wal-Mart, assistant manager at Pizza Hut, manager at Sonic, and his current position.

Donaldson was a state treasurer and state vice president for the Phi Beta Lambda business club, local treasurer for Phi Beta Lambda, a College Orientation leader for three years, and a member of the Student Senate.

Donaldson will graduate in May.

His advice to students is to "try to stay focused on school, and if you can get by without working I would strongly suggest it. Always be open with your instructors. They are there to help and guide you."

CRIMINAL JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

## Phillips has good sense of humor

By BETSY WHITE  
CHART REPORTER

Three, two, one, buzzzz...Hundreds of fans storm the basketball court to congratulate the Missouri Southern Lady Lions after defeating Southwest Baptist University for the MIAA championship.

Among the victors was Amy Phillips, junior criminal justice major and forward for the team.

"This is the first time in a few years that our team has made it to regionals," she said.

"We were voted second seed in the regional tournament, which shows that people outside our conference think highly of us."

For Phillips, this is no unusual feat. While attending Lindenwood College in St. Charles as a freshman, Phillips and her team won the conference championship and made it to the national tournament.

She also made a professional women's basketball team, during the spring of 1995, called the Chicago Twisters.

"I consider this to be one of the biggest accomplishments of my life," Phillips said.

"It's too bad about the clause in the contract that if you play for a professional team you couldn't play college ball ever again. And the only way I could finish school was on a scholarship."

Phillips transferred from Lindenwood to her hometown junior college in Joliet, Ill., about 45 minutes outside Chicago. She averaged 9.5 points per game there in 1994-95.

"Joliet is a lot different from Joplin. It was a total culture shock when I visited the campus on a recruiting trip," Phillips said.

"All I remember was my coach never locked his doors to the car anywhere we went."

Phillips decided to attend Southern after learning she would receive a full-ride basketball scholarship and about the "excellent" criminal justice program.

"Dr. Jack Spurlin (dean of the school of technology) would have to be my favorite professor here," Phillips said.

"He's hilarious and makes things easy to



BRETT DAWSON/The Chart

Amy Phillips, junior criminal justice major, dreams of working as an investigator for the FBI and has a talent for making people laugh.

learn. He uses his real-life experiences to get points across to his classes."

Not only does Phillips consider herself an "amateur investigator" (her dream job is to investigate for the Federal Bureau of Investigation), but she also believes she has a talent for making people laugh.

"It makes my day when I can bring a smile to someone's face," Phillips said.

"I grew up in an easy-going family; both sides have a sense of humor."

When Phillips was in the first grade, she forgot to take something for show and tell. Her teacher allowed her to put on a comic show for the class.

"I impersonated Grimace, from the McDonald's commercials. My teacher let me talk for an entire hour, because she thought I was so funny," Phillips said.

"Life isn't exactly the easiest thing, and laughing makes things bearable."

CRIMINAL JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

## Ekhoff finds richness in friendship

Secretary enjoys work, encourages students not to put goals on hold

By ELIZABETH LOVLAND  
CAMPUS EDITOR

One of Judi Ekhoff's favorite things is associating with people, especially with family and friends.

"I think that being close to your family is really important," said Ekhoff, part-time secretary in the criminal justice department. "Being there for your friends and having true friends is also important."

"You can have a lot of things, have a lot of money, material things, be famous, and have a title. All of those things are fine, but if you can say that you have one really good friend then you are very rich."

Ekhoff said she does feel rich because of her friends.

"I know that I have a few really close friends whom I can tell whatever and they wouldn't think of me any less," she said.

"It may not be the best thing that I'm telling them, but they still really care for me. I'm that way with them; I'm there for them."

Ekhoff, who started working in the criminal justice department in December, said she enjoys her work and the people in the department.

"It's really nice working with everybody here," she said.

"They seem to have a pretty good disposition, and there's always students coming in and out."

Some of her duties include assisting the faculty members, general secretarial duties, and helping correlate the police academy manual and ranger books.

Ekhoff's husband, Larry Ekhoff, also works at Missouri Southern. He takes care of the hazardous waste on campus and is a part-time security officer.

Ekhoff said some places she has worked didn't want a husband and wife working together.

"I asked [my husband] if it was going to be OK, and he said that they (Southern) really kind of promote that," she said.

"They have always been easy people to get along with, very academic-minded."



SPENCER BECK/The Chart

Judi Ekhoff is a part-time secretary at the Anderson Justice Center. Ekhoff's husband, Larry, also works for Missouri Southern as a part-time security officer.

Ekhoff said the one thing she would do over would be to finish her degree.

"Sometimes you let things interfere with your goals and you put them on a shelf for a while," she said. "That's OK. I guess, if you can eventually get back to them and don't leave them on the shelf too long."

"A lot of my friends and I have talked about how we wish we wouldn't have put off our goals about getting our degrees."

Ekhoff, who attended Southern for two years, has enjoyed the jobs she has had, but said it would have made her feel better if she would have finished her degree.

Ekhoff has two children, ages 20 and 14.

"When they get to a certain age you kind of let them do their own thing," she said, "but, you're always there saying, 'Now are you sure you want to do that, have you thought of that, then OK.'"

Ekhoff encourages her children to get their degrees.

"I think that it (a degree) is important for people to have and for people to encourage them," she said.

"I wasn't one who had that encouragement. If you have encouragement, it kind

"A lot of my friends and I have talked about how we wish we wouldn't have put off our goals about getting our degrees."

Judi Ekhoff  
Secretary

gives you that extra push."

Ekhoff's advice for college students is to keep going.

"No matter how much drudgery, or if you feel like it's getting old, you eventually get down to your goal, and you'll have it," she said. "It does make a difference in the job world; it really does."





## COMING ATTRACTIONS

## On Campus

23 times on campus are 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

**Splya Art Gallery**  
Gallery hours 8 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Now-May 10—Senior Shows, as part of their graduation requirements, three groups of seniors will exhibit works in the special media emphasis.  
**Taylor Auditorium**  
April 26—MSIPC Junior Finals, 7-10:15 p.m.  
April 27—MSIPC Senior Finals, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., 14 p.m., Gala Winner's Concert, 8 p.m.  
May 2—Symphonic Band Concert.  
May 6—Orchestra Concert.  
May 9—Choir Concert.  
**Webster Hall auditorium**  
April 25—MSIPC Senior Semifinals, 9:20 a.m.-10 p.m.  
April 26—MSIPC Senior Semifinals, 9:20 a.m.-10:20 p.m.  
April 28—Joplin Piano Teachers' Student Recital.  
April 30—Senior Recital: Rhesa Storms.  
May 3—Jazz in Joplin, Corner Pocket.  
May 11—Joplin Piano Teachers' Sonatina Festival.  
May 11—Suzuki Student Festival.  
**Phinney Recital Hall**  
May 16—Choral Society Concert.

## Joplin

**The Grind**  
784-7999  
All events are at 9 p.m.  
Tuesday nights—Open Mike Night.  
April 25—MU 330.  
May 8—Janore.  
May 11—Walking on Einstein.  
May 24—King Friday.  
May 25—Oreo Blue.  
May 31—Missionaries.  
**The Java House**  
659-8500  
All events are at 9 p.m.  
April 26—Richard Johnson.  
May 3—Carl Howe.  
May 10—Solice.  
May 17—Glen Loen.  
May 25—Water Deep.  
May 31—Butler Broher.  
**Bypass**  
624-9095  
All events are at 9:30 p.m.  
Every Wednesday, in Alternative Wednesday.  
April 26—Missionaries.  
**Champs**  
782-4944  
All times are at 9 p.m.  
April 26-27—Scott Ellison Band.  
May 4—Walking on Einstein.  
May 10-11—Mesa Michael.  
May 17-18—Ratty Latarue.  
May 24-25—Streamline.  
May 31—Night Train.  
Kirsty's (in the Holiday Inn)  
782-1000  
All times are at 8:30 p.m.  
April 28—Fears for Art.

## Springfield

**Hammons Hall for the Performing Arts**  
1-800-962-2787  
April 26—Jim Brickman.  
May 3-5—Cats.  
**Springfield Symphony**  
864-6683  
May 11—Broadway and Beyond with guest vocalist Kim Crosby.  
**Vandivort Center Theatre**  
831-8001  
Now-27—Closer Than Ever.  
May 4-5—Springfield Ballet's Precious Jewels.  
May 11—Roger Landes and Connie Dover.  
May 18-19—Gash/Voigt Dance Theatre of St. Louis.

## Kansas City

**Kemper Arena**  
(816) 274-1900  
May 29—Campbell's Soup 1996 Figure Skating Champions.  
**Memorial Hall**  
(913) 371-7555  
May 14—Joan Osborne.  
**Sandstone Amphitheatre.**  
(913) 721-3400  
April 27—Country Concert Series '96: Joe Diffie, Rhett Atkins, and Neal McCoy.  
May 4—Alabama and Kenny Chesney.  
May 26—Dwight Yokum with David Ball.

## SOUTHERN THEATRE

## Summer play tackles sexual harassment

By KATE WALTERS  
STAFF WRITER

Student-teacher sexual harassment is the touchy topic in *Oleanna*, the latest undertaking of Southern Theatre.

Mark Sweet and Parade Heidlage star in this two-character play dealing with the cry of student harassment—a final fabrication of rape. The play will be staged July 18-20 and Aug. 21-24 in Taylor Auditorium.

"In our lives almost anybody could claim something that is troubling, and therefore in the 90s they call it harassment," said Dr. Jay Fields, director of the show.

Although the teacher, John, played by Sweet, does treat the student, Carol (Heidlage), with less respect than she deserves, it is more out of ignorance that anything else, Fields said.

The student is not vindictive merely out of cruelty; she is influenced by her support group to bring up the

charges against him. She is merely a pawn to them to make their point about harassment.

"In today's society the charge almost makes the person guilty," Fields said.

"Once the charge is made, it puts into the mind that it was a possibility."

*Oleanna* is the first summer show for Southern Theatre since 1988. The department does not usually have the budget to put on a summer show, but received funding from the Funding for Results committee.

Since this show's theme is geared toward student learning and faculty teaching, it was approved by the committee.

Fields wanted to do the show for three reasons.

First, it points out to the faculty what they should be aware of as teachers.

And if students see the play, it could show them the kind of dangers they could get in and what kind of power

they have and how they could misuse it.

Second, *Oleanna* gives the summer theatre class a play to evaluate which it has never had a chance to do before.

Finally, the play is going to have a talk back after the performances where students and faculty will be able to stay after the play and question the cast and crew of the show. Dr. Pat Khathe, assistant director of the honors program, is going to organize a panel discussion between student and faculty to be held when school starts.

"Theatre should not be a pabulum for the mass audiences," Fields said. "Theatre should challenge people to think. It should awaken their emotions and cause them to discuss important issues, and *Oleanna* certainly does that."

"The worst thing a theatre company can do is give audiences what they want."

Fields believes theatre should

66

*Theatre should not be a pabulum for the mass audiences. Theatre should challenge people to think.*

Dr. Jay Fields  
Head of theatre department

99

shake up the audience and stimulate them.

He said people in theatre should not always give audiences *Camelot*; that's just entertainment.

Fields believes sexual harassment is a good topic to attack because in a society that is "sue happy," people have to be aware of their actions.

"It made me realize we have to be extremely careful in the 90s in the classroom in what we say and do because today anybody could take anything anyway they want to and blow it out of proportion," he said.

Heidlage, a sophomore theatre major, sees the play more from the woman's point of view.

Although she said her character twists the meanings of the teacher's words, she has more sympathy for the woman.

"Sexual harassment happens all the time," she said.

"From this play, I want people to realize they can stand up for their rights and teachers to realize what they say can sound different to other people and can be transformed into something that wasn't intended." □

## SENIOR RECITAL

## Pianist to storm stage for senior recital Tuesday



SPENCER BECK/The Chart

Rhesa Storms, a senior music major, will perform her senior recital Tuesday night at Webster Hall auditorium. Pieces by five artists will be featured in her last performance.

## Musical family steers Storms into love of music

By AMY DENTNER  
STAFF WRITER

Music lovers can anticipate traveling back to the Romantic period when Rhesa Storms presents her senior piano recital.

For Storms, this style of music offers an outlet for self expression.

"I feel like I express myself best through Romantic and Impressionistic music," she said.

"It's what I enjoy playing the most, and it's just what I feel I can play the best."

Storms, a student of Missouri Southern's artist in residence, Dr. Gloria Chuang, will present her recital at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in Webster Hall auditorium.

Compositions by Beethoven, Schumann, Chopin, Rachmaninoff, and Ravel will be featured. Though Storms said her college and high school piano teachers have influenced her, she also credits her family for her love of music.

"My family has definitely been influential because they all love music," she said.

"And when you're in a family that enjoys singing it and playing together as much as mine do, it's very natural to want to go on and study music."

In addition to playing the piano, Storms is active in Southern's vocal music department. She said participating in the concert choir, chamber choir, and Southern Exposure, the College's show choir, offer an alternative to instrumental music.

"I really feel like it (vocal music) helped me be a little more well-rounded because I haven't just solely focused on piano," Storms said. "I've been able to be involved in some other things, and that's been fun for me."

After graduation, Storms said she and her husband are moving to Boston, where she hopes to attend graduate school.

"I'm excited about where we're going to be because there are going to be a lot of opportunities to go to good schools," she said. "So within the next couple of years I want to go ahead and pursue a master's in a musical field."

According to Bud Clark, director of choral activities, Storms will do well in her musical endeavors.

"She is very mature in her attitude toward music, studies hard," Clark said. □

## THE GRIND

## Ska bands to perform

By KEVIN COLEMAN  
ASSISTANT ARTS EDITOR

MU330 will perform the first of two nights of ska at The Grind tonight.

The band was formed in south St. Louis in 1988 by grade school buddies Don Potthast, lead guitar and vocals; Ted Mall, drums and vocals; and Chris Diebold, bass.

Their current lineup also includes Rob Baur, trumpet; and Traygan "Raygun" Bilsland, saxophone.

The band combines ska with rock, punk, sing-along lyrics, pop hooks, and double-bass rhythms.

Their debut CD, *Press*, has sold 5,000 copies in the U.S. and Europe since its release in 1994.

The band is touring now to promote its new release, *Chumps on Parade*, which was recorded at the home of its producer David Probst

and has a harder, parker sound than *Press*.

"They've played here twice before and drawn good crowds," said Tyler Huffman of Big Bad Chubba, who booked the show. "They're real energetic, and they play hard."

The Rowskabouts, a local ska band, will open the show at 7 p.m. Cover charge is \$4.

As an added bonus, The Grind is offering anyone attending the MU330 concert a chance to see Big Bad Chubba with special guest Uncle Thumbtack for \$1 Friday night.

"That's four bands in two nights for \$5," Huffman said. "Or you can just come to the Big Bad Chubba show and pay \$3."

The Grind is located at 506 Joplin. For more information, interested parties may call The Grind at 781-7999. □



OZARK TALENT/Special to The Chart

St. Louis Ska band MU330 will play at 8 tonight at The Grind with The Rowskabouts. The band is promoting its new CD, *Chumps on Parade*.



By MICHAEL DAVISON

## 'Flirting' lacks character development

## Stereotypes detract from plot; 'affair' only adds to puzzle

Take a neurotic Jewish man, his wife, and unnamed 5-month-old son, mix vigorously with a freshly-separated social worker and a homosexual couple, then stir with stress.

That's the recipe for *Flirting with Disaster*, starring Ben Stiller, Patricia Arquette, and Tea Leoni.

The movie evolves around a man, Mel Conklin (Stiller), searching for his real parents, searching for some sort of history in order to name his son.

As expected from Hollywood, Mel encounters several obstacles along his cross-country journey as he and his family join forces with a social worker from an adoption agency, Tina Kalb (Leoni).

During the search, Tina makes a mistake and a woman in Texas and a truck driver in Michigan are thought to be Mel's real mother and father.

After Stiller destroys a post office, the three meet up with two male officers with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, one of which used to date Mel's wife, Nancy (Arquette).

It turns out the two officers are married to each other and are accidentally invited to go along with the Conklins to New Mexico, where Mel will finally meet his real parents.

The biggest problem with this movie is the characterization. The characters are given personality labels, but they do nothing to develop themselves.

So, instead of having true characters, you have stereotypes interacting with each other.

An example of this is when a neurotic Stiller becomes physical with the recently-separated social worker.

Nothing really develops before the "affair" to lead up to this, and it seems as if she is throwing herself at him.

Why do most movies have a strong female character who lessens herself by throwing herself at the closest man? This might happen in the real world, but why not show the real friendships between men and women which don't involve sex.

I would have much rather seen a strong social worker, doing her job, and developing a friendship with this young couple.

The relationship was a weak

attempt to add a twist to the plot.

*Flirting with Disaster* is banking on the melding of the young actors with more experienced actors.

The movie includes some of Hollywood's most respected actors. Mary Tyler Moore and George Segal play his adoptive parents while Alan Alda and Lily Tomlin play his real parents. However, their talents are wasted due to lack of development.

Moore and Segal are the Jewish neurotics who mean well, and Alda and Tomlin are ex-hippie drug dealers.

Their characters have no depth and the actors seem to be doing their best to break any mold set on them by Hollywood. An example of this is Moore showing her bra to everybody saying that it's the best thing for women. Then she chases Segal around with a hunk of cheese. I think the label of being a classy comedian is better than showing your breasts and being silly.

Overall, the situations these people find themselves in are amusing, at times, but the lack of development and "meat" make this nothing above an average movie. □



MSIPC

# Volunteers help competition as pianists arrive

Interpreter, technician realize importance of biennial contest

By MICHAEL DAVISON  
ARTS EDITOR

When the contestants of the sixth annual Missouri Southern International Piano Competition arrived at the pizza party Monday, they were greeted not only by board members and fellow contestants, but also by volunteers.

The pianists collected packets with a program and other information about the campus from area supporters of the competition and drew numbers for the order of the semifinals.

Also, those who don't speak the language met with the volunteering student interpreters.

"Volunteers are the heart of the competition," said Rebecca McMullen, a senior elementary education major who also works as student help in the MSIPC office. "They really make a big difference."

Although McMullen is getting paid for working 20 hours this week, she will volunteer more time when needed.

"I worked 10 hours on Monday alone," she said. "I am basically doing whatever needs to be done."

Every night, McMullen and the rest of the MSIPC brain trust get together and take notes on what's happened and how to improve things.

"We write everything down," she said. "We followed the notes that we took last year, and we took lots."

This is the second competition for McMullen, who is in charge of keeping the practice rooms properly booked.

"We have people in rooms from 8 a.m. to



Georgi Slavchev (left), a senior contestant from Bulgaria, discusses the competition with Maria Stäblein, a senior contestant from Germany, during Monday's pizza party. The senior semifinals start today with the finalists' performances beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday.

10 p.m., so it gets a little hectic," she said.

With the competition being international in scope, many of the contestants do not speak English or speak just a little. For this reason, the competition provides interpreters.

"A big problem is with the language barrier," said Nastyia Bokova, a Russian economics and finance major working as an interpreter during the competition. "It's not important what is said, but what is felt—when your heart shows."

"But even if you don't know the language, everybody is kind," she said. "Joplin is kind, and everybody with the competition is trying to do everything to make everything all right."

Bokova, who has been at Missouri Southern for two years, first heard about the competition from Vivian Leon, director of the MSIPC, during a dinner for international students.

"Then a friend of mine, Karen Laster, called and said 'I need your help,'" Bokova said. "So I said sure, and now I am involved with everything."

Six contestants are from Russia, which gives her enough work to do.

"I like to do this because we all have something in common," she said.

She is not surprised, however, by the number of Russians in the competition.

"It's a big country and there's a lot of talent there," Bokova said. "I went to music school for eight years, so I know how good these people are and how much talent there is."

"To be as good as these people here, I would have to practice at least six hours a day," she said.

"It is like a runner. In order to be good, you have to run all the time." □



Lioudmila Tchoudinova, a 14-year-old girl from Russia, and her mother, of the same name, look over the schedule of events at this week's International Piano Competition. Junior semifinals started Wednesday and the finals begin Friday.

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# Spring Fling Week SOUTHERN 1996 RENAISSANCE



## PHOTO KEY CHAINS

9 a.m.-2 p.m.,

Front Oval.

## CHESS TOURNAMENT

2 p.m., BSC Room 310 & 311

Cash Prize or chessboard.

Chess Tournament signups in BSC Room 102.

MOVIE "FIRST KNIGHT", 7 p.m. &

9:30 p.m., BSC 2nd floor lounge.



## CHESS TOURNAMENT

BSC Rooms 311, 313, & 314

SOCIETY FOR CREATIVE

ANACHRONISMS DEMO



Front Oval

MOVIE "FIRST KNIGHT", 7 p.m. &

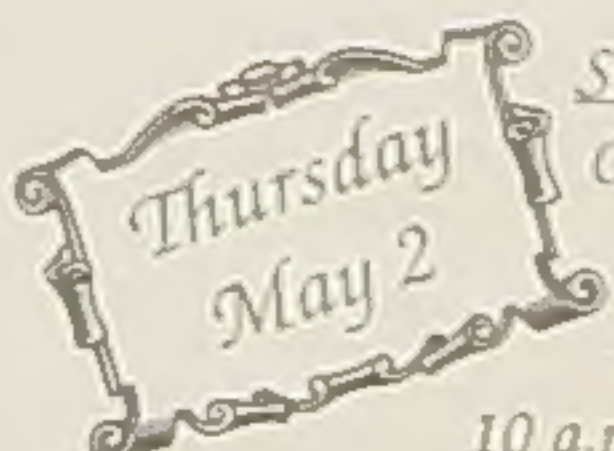
9:30 p.m., BSC 2nd floor lounge



## PLINKO GAME

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gift certificates.



## SCAVENGER HUNT

On campus, 7 p.m.

1st place group, \$100

## LASER TAG

10 a.m.-2 p.m., Front Oval

## ALL-CAMPUS PICNIC

10:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m.,

Front Oval.

Entertainment by the

Flaming Idiots. Free ice cream

and free caricatures by Nick Frising.

DANCE, 8p.m.-midnight, BSC Connor

Ballroom. Music by Bob Wentworth.



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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### Business college aims for facility expansion

Joplin's Vatterott College will be doing some major expanding in the future.

The college, based out of St. Louis, plans to build a 5,000-square-foot building on its present campus on North Main Street to accommodate a new program.

No building permit has been issued as of yet, but the project will be under the construction of Glenn Construction Co. of Joplin.

The building proposal parallels with Vatterott's plans for a local program in building maintenance and major appliance repair.

Vatterott has occupied the Main Street address since 1991, and has since renovated the 9,000-square-foot building. □

### Small business award to be presented today

Finalists for the 1996 Small Business of the Year have been announced by Baird, Kurtz & Dobson and the Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce.

The finalists are recognized for the outstanding contributions of small business to the economy and the overall progress of the Joplin area.

Selections are based on the evidence of successful business operation and significant contributions to the community.

The finalists have been chosen from 23 nominees. The following are recognized as the Small Business of the Year finalists: Chism's Harvest Farm, Computerland, Dick Ruestman Construction, Joplin Building Materials, South Outdoor Advertising, and The Insurance Center.

The award for the business of the year will be chosen today at the Chamber's annual banquet. □

### St. John's to sponsor weight-loss program

Designed for long-term success in maintaining a healthy weight, a weight-loss class for women is being offered by St. John's Regional Medical Center.

"Striving for a Healthy Weight Class: A Lifestyle Approach" includes low-fat cooking and eating, behavior modification, low-impact exercise, and relaxation.

The class started Tuesday and is taught by Robin Wells, a registered dietitian and certified lifestyle counselor. Classes will be held from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday in the Education and Resource Center at St. John's Center for Women's Health for an eight-week period.

A \$125 fee will be charged to cover the cost of the class and materials.

Persons seeking more information may contact the Center for Women's Health at (417) 781-LADY (5239).

Also offered by St. John's through Operation Community Health will be a free immunization and health screening scheduled to take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at St. John's.

Operation Community Health is also sponsored by Mercy Regional Health Foundation. It is a project motivated by Vision Health's goals for community wellness and uses volunteers from Joplin Practical Nursing Program, St. John's, Missouri Nurses Association, the business community of Joplin, and Joplin Emergency Medical Services.

Parents wanting to have their children immunized will need to bring the child's current immunization records.

The health screenings offered include cholesterol, blood pressure, and blood sugar check. □

## JOPLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT

# Woodward triumphs over terror

Joplin police officer back on beat after gunshot to chest

By STEPHANIE GOAD  
CITY NEWS EDITOR

After cheating possible death, Joplin police officer Karol Woodward is refusing to toss in the towel on her career.

Woodward sustained severe bruising when a bullet from a fleeing perpetrator lodged itself in her bullet-proof vest.

Because she was injured in the line of duty, the police department awarded the officer a purple heart during a special press conference held Tuesday.

The 24-year-old Missouri Southern graduate has been on the force since August 1994. She was sidelined for less than a week and is already back on her beat.

"My exact words in the hospital were 'I'm not quitting,'" she said.

Woodward said the fact that the suspect had a weapon was surprising to her.

"I never thought about it; it totally caught me off-guard," she said.

The evening of Monday, Feb. 26 seemed like any other day for Woodward. She investigated a suspicious-looking individual in an area where several vehicles had been reported stolen.

When Woodward approached, the suspect fled on foot. Woodward then pursued. During the chase, the suspect turned and opened fire.

"After I shot back at him, I pulled my hamstring and went down," Woodward said.

She said the moments following

the incident seemed to halt until her backup arrived at the scene.

"It seemed like forever, but I'm sure it was only a matter of minutes," Woodward said. "I heard the breaks of my backup officer's car come to a screeching halt. I told him which way he (the suspect) went. Then I told him my chest was burning. I think I've been shot."

While lying helplessly on the ground, Woodward said she feared the suspect would return to the scene.

"I didn't know if he would come back to finish me off," she said.

For Woodward, wearing the vest while on the streets has become a habit, though it hasn't always been that way. But her conscience would eventually save her life.

"One night I didn't wear my vest; it felt uncomfortable because my back hurt," she said.

"But I thought about it all night, everywhere we went. From then on I would wear it no matter how bad my back hurt."

Such an incident often takes an emotional toll on the victim, and for Woodward, this instance was no different. Reality hit her when she got out of the hospital.

"I thought, 'He wasn't trying to hurt me; he was trying to kill me.' Coming to that realization was hard. 'Emotionally it has been tough, but the guys I work with and the command staff at the station have been real supportive,'" Woodward said.

She said she planned to ride along with another officer for awhile after she returned to work, but her coworkers and Chief of Police David Niebur were very supportive. Niebur asked her if she was ready to go back on the streets, and she began working her beat by herself again.



DEBORAH SOLOMON/The Chart

Joplin police officer and Missouri Southern graduate Karol Woodward is back in work after her bullet-proof vest absorbed a suspect's bullet Feb. 26. Woodward has been on the force since August 1994.

"She is just as an aggressive officer now as she was prior to the shooting," Niebur said. "I wasn't surprised [that she came back to work] because she is an excellent officer, and she's pretty resilient. She was ready and wanted to come back."

Woodward said the confidence from her coworkers was essential to such a quick return.

"They had confidence in me and thought I was ready," she said.

Woodward's incident yielded quite a bit of publicity. The local media made her into a hero, but she says she was just doing her job.

"One thing I want everyone to know is I'm not the hero,"

Woodward said. "I didn't do anything special. The heroes are the 100 officers that stayed out all night looking for the guy that shot me."

She is disappointed that the case remains unresolved, but believes she did all she could given the situation.

"I listened to the radio until they called the search off because I had to lie out there with them somehow," Woodward said. "When they called it off, my head went down," she said. "I wasn't disappointed in anybody's ability; I just wanted some closure. I wanted to know that he wasn't on the streets anymore. I may never get that closure because he may never be caught."

"Looking back, I don't think there's anything I could have done differently," she said.

"I go over and over it in my mind. One thing that will always be the same is that I will always have my vest on, because that's what saved my life."

Woodward said she believes she has overcome any feelings of defeat despite her injuries and the fact that the suspect still remains at large.

"I felt defeated getting into an ambulance," Woodward said, "but since then I've conquered that feeling because I didn't let him take anything from me."

"I'm back to work." □

## ORGAN AND TISSUE DONOR AWARENESS WEEK

# Many receive gift of life from organ transplants

Phillips family makes life-altering decision, saves lives

By STEPHANIE GOAD  
CITY NEWS EDITOR

Situation: You are given a choice to sustain or enhance the lives of other individuals at the price of losing someone you hold near and dear. How will you decide?

For the Phillips family there was only one answer. Yes, they would donate their loved one's organs.

It was Aug. 17, 1995, and Luke Phillips was 13 in 11 days. While attempting to return the 38-special handgun he had been playing with to its proper location, he tripped and fell. The gun discharged, shooting Phillips in the head.

Heather Phillips, Luke's sister and junior criminal justice major at Missouri Southern, said her brother was flown via Med-Flight from their home in Lamar to St. John's Regional Medical Center in Joplin. When the family discovered he was not expected to live they decided to donate his organs.

"My mom was an ICU nurse and was aware of organ donation, so it was something our family just assumed we would do," Phillips said.

Phillips said the family knew that donating the organs would be what Luke would want.

"My brother was playing with my father's driver's license a few weeks before he died, and on the back it had organ donation information," she said. "My dad asked him what he would want done and he told him, 'I want to donate my organs.'"

"If he would not have said that, we never would have known that's what he wanted done."

Phillips says she believes a higher power played a hand in the fulfillment of her brother's wishes.

"I think it was God's way of preparing the rest of us and letting us know his wishes," she said.

Phillips said her family was able to donate every organ possible with the exception of the lungs.

"We donated his kidneys, eyes, heart, liver, veins, skin, pancreas,

and bone," she said.

"We think he is in heaven smiling because he helped so many people."

April 21-27 has been designated as National Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness Week. To honor the occasion, Phillips sports a green ribbon on her lapel.

One of those who benefited from Luke Phillips' life was Don Spencer, who received one of his kidneys. Spencer is a father of five from Galena, Kan.

According to Jan Finn, organ procurement transplant coordinator for the Midwest Organ Bank, she said approximately 13 donors a year are received into the program in the Joplin area alone.

"From one tissue donor, approximately 50 people would benefit," Finn said.

She said the goal of the donor bank is to "positively predispose the public to organ and tissue donation."

"We want them to think about it, get information, and make a decision, but most importantly, to tell the next of kin," she said.

Phillips said she wants people to realize how many lives can be saved by just one donor.

"One donor can save and enhance

"We think he is in heaven smiling because he helped so many people."

Heather Phillips  
Donor's sister



Luke Phillips

the lives of over 75 people," she said. She also said she encourages all individuals who intend to have their organs donated to share their intentions with their family and friends.

"Tell the closest consenting adult; tell family, friends, or a preacher," Phillips said. "Tell them that's what you want."

Phillips said she is dedicated to promoting the awareness of organ donation. Her instructors have allowed her to use some class time to speak about her experience.

"I want people to know they don't have to donate everything," she said. "If there is a particular organ they would feel uncomfortable donating, they can specify—only the heart, liver, or kidney."

"We are very happy with the deci-

sion we made," Phillips said.

"My brother would be so proud to know he gave five little kids a daddy."

One other organ recipient who benefited from another donor is Betty Jo Auman from Baxter Springs, Kan. Auman received a successful kidney transplant six years ago after being on dialysis for two years and a donor list for six months.

Auman, 70, says she experienced mix feelings after her operation.

"I'm sure everyone who receives an organ feels the same way; someone did die," she said. "On one hand, I knew there was a family that was very sad, but at the same time I felt elated that I did receive it." □

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## The Front Page

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LICENSE PLATES

# Legislation honors groups

Veterans, shriners, square dancers are recognized by bill

By J.L. GRIFFIN  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Missouri automobile owners may have more choices on their hands when it comes time to renew their license plates.

A House bill was passed last week that would allow special "vanity" plates for honored groups like veterans of World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, and Eagle Scouts. But it also paves the way for other groups, such as square dancers and Shriners, to have specialty plates.

"There has been lengthy discussion about getting a committal from various groups for a certain number of plates before we press them," said Rep. John Loudon (R-Ballwin), sponsor of the bill.

The bill was given initial approval by the House with a 102-27 vote during consent bill reading.

According to Loudon, opposition to the bill stems from the original purpose of the bill, which was to allow historical vehicles to register

antique plates with the Department of Revenue to be placed on the vehicles. It would cost vehicle owners extra to place the plates on the autos.

The opposition believes all vehicles should have plates made from a reflective material, as the newly designed plates mandate.

However, Col. Fred Mills, superintendent of the Missouri Highway Patrol, said allowing for historical plates wouldn't be a big deal. Mills cited the few numbers of plates likely to be used and said it wouldn't be that great of a safety issue.

The bill was tagged with several amendments that would allow for the specialty plates. It also creates special designs signifying the conservation of air, water, land, and wildlife.

"I don't know if any [new plates] that would expressly change the new design," Loudon said.

Loudon said the bill was really no big deal, and it originated as an amendment to a bill from last year. He also said he didn't see a problem with allowing historical vehicles to have plates from the year of the car's inception.

"Fully reflective plates are a good idea to the extent of the millions of cars on the highways," he said.

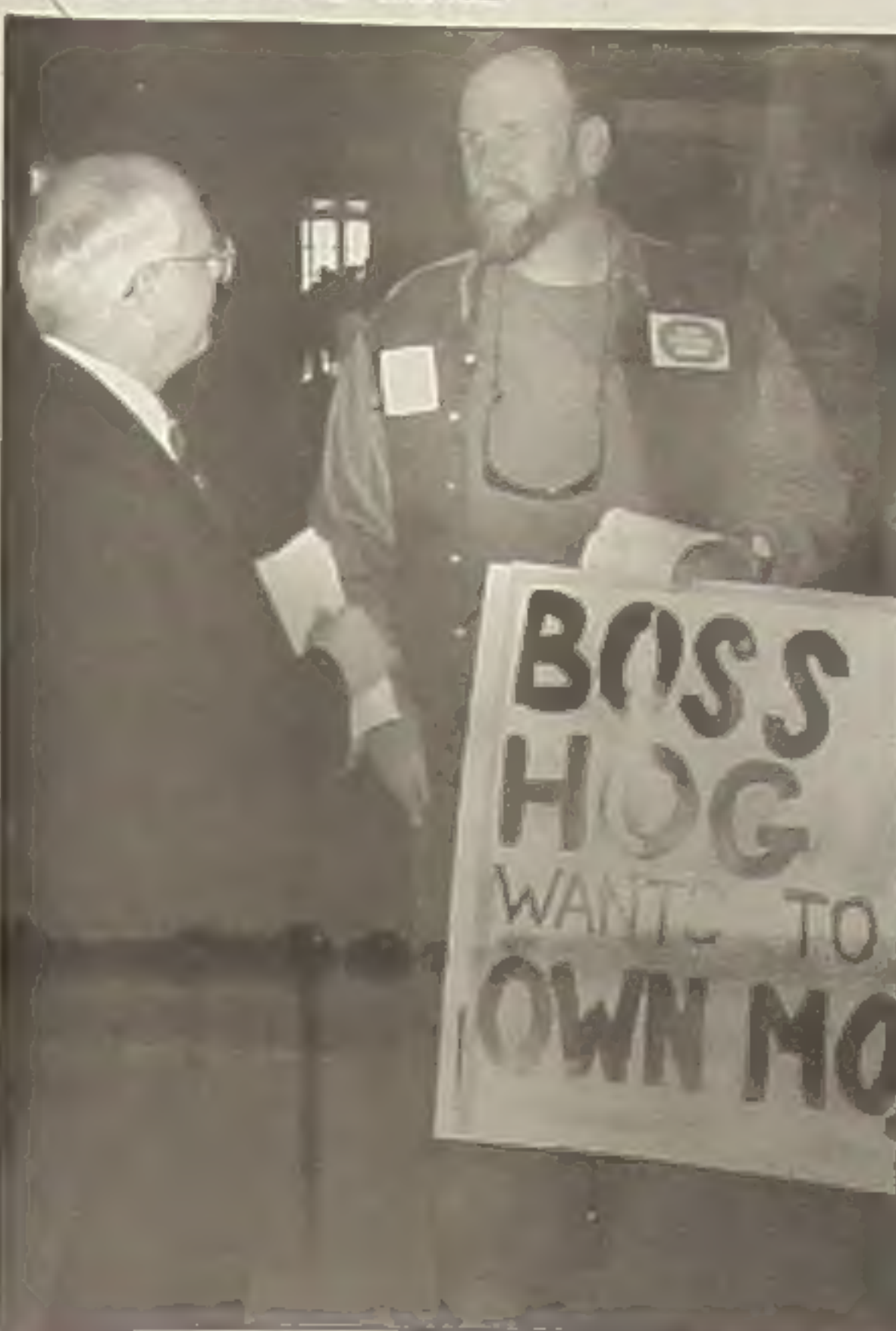
Rep. Larry Thomason (D-Kennett), a member of the advisory committee that chose the new design, said he didn't see a problem with Loudon's bill. Because of the amount of money the state gathers from "vanity" plates, Thomason said he supported the bill.

The revenue department didn't have any solid dollar figures for personalized license plates, but said there were approximately 140,000 "vanity" plates on Missouri vehicles. The base price for a vanity plate is \$15.

The rough estimate of revenue from the plates given by the revenue department's public information officer, Kay Dinolfo, appears to be \$2.1 million. That is not including extra fees for some vanity plates that cost more, such as fire department and Purple Heart plates.

Also, some motorists who get plates from collegiate institutions have to pay the school a minimum of \$25 as well as the \$15 for personalized plates. Dinolfo said the charge for "vanity" plates is on top of the annual plate renewal fee, which is anywhere from \$18.15 to \$51.15 depending on the amount of horsepower of the engine in the vehicle.

## CALL BO AND LUKE



Pettis County farmer Steve Smith (right) talks about House Bill 1207 with John Neer. The bill deals with corporate hog farms.

## STATE NEWS BRIEFS

### Herbal-drug legislation goes to governor's desk

After receiving notoriety in the national press—legitimate and tabloid—ephedrine is making waves in Missouri's capital.

Sen. Bill McKenna (D-Barnhart) has passed legislation that will effectively remove any shadow of doubt cast on the the methadone-based drug. Previous attempts had been made by the General Assembly to rid the state of the narcotic, but apparently the law was too lax. The bill has been signed by Senate President Jim Mathewson (D-Sedalia) and also has the signature of House Speaker Steve Gaw (D-Moberly). It was delivered to Gov. Mel Carnahan Monday for his signature.

"We thought we had made it illegal a few years ago," McKenna said.

However, McKenna said manufacturers found loopholes in the law and still made derivatives of the drug in over-the-counter form.

Right now, consumers can go to vitamin and health stores, as well as other alternative health stores in the state, and pick up many types of the drug.

This bill includes ephedrine as well as all of its derivatives in the ban. The current law only prohibits ephedrine, a component of ephedra. Ephedra is an herb sometimes known as ma huang.

Ephedrine and ephedra are the most common of the supplements available in various stores sold as Herbal Xtacy, Cloud 9, and Euphoria. The drugs are stimulants expected to have reactions much the same as methamphetamines.

Recently the Food and Drug Administration released information tying the drug to at least 14 deaths and 400 reports of adverse side effects. Some stores around the state which previously sold the herbal supplements have pulled the products in light of the FDA warning.

McKenna said many states are outlawing currently instead of waiting for federal mandates. He said he had been in contact with the department of health's division of illegal drugs while drafting the legislation.

McKenna also said the health department has been in contact with federal officials about ephedrine and ephedra.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

# Phone bill debate coming to close

Phone, cable, electronic media to be deregulated by legislation

By J.L. GRIFFIN  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

In an attempt to deregulate telecommunications companies, the Missouri General Assembly is attempting to pass legislation that would create competition among telephone companies and set phone rates.

The gist of the legislation would allow local phone carriers to enter the long-distance market and allow long-distance providers to go local.

One of the final steps of the process was taken Tuesday night when the House consumer protection committee held a hearing on Senate Bill 507. Sen. Wayne Goode (D-Normandy), the sponsor of the bill, testified for approximately 15 minutes before turning the proceedings over to Robert Hack, a Public Service Commission official.

"This legislation is consistent with the Federal Communications Act," said Karl Zobrist, chairman of the PSC.

The federal government enacted a law this year opening all markets of telecommunications—local and long distance.

Lawmakers in Washington, D.C. moved on the issue after more than 30 states had begun deregulating telecommunications markets, according to Rep. Gary Burton (R-Joplin).

Burton and Rep. Carol Jean Mays (D-Independence) were co-sponsors of House Bill 1363. Mays is also chair of the House consumer protection committee.

The House bill was much the same as SB 507, but HB 1363 was tabled after weeks of negotiating, and a compromise on SB 507 seemed to appease almost everyone involved.

"It is a very fair compromise," Goode said at the

hearing. "It is fair to companies and competitors, and it's fair to consumers."

The bill affects companies who deal with telephones, cable television, and electronic media. Some of the bigger players are AT&T, Southwestern Bell, GTE, MCI, Sprint, TCI Cable, and the Missouri Press Association. Many groups had representatives at Tuesday night's hearing.

In all, eight testified on behalf of the bill, while only one testified against it. Dave Scott of Kansas City Fibernet was the lone witness against the bill.

Hack said he believed the bill met the concerns of everyone involved.

"This ensures that service and prices are reasonably comparable between urban and rural areas," he said.

The committee also held an executive session on the bill and voted it out of committee by a 14-0 decision. One of the committee members was absent. It will go on the House calendar soon, according to an aide in Mays' office.

The price gap between rural and urban rates was a major concern of many when the bill was drafted. Because of the difficulty in creating and maintaining lines in rural Missouri, it costs more for basic local service. To protect the rates changed in rural areas, a universal service fund has been established. The fund requires all phone companies to pay into a money pool that goes toward keeping rates down in these high-cost areas. The fund is supported by collections from business rates, access charges, and revenue from urban areas.

"The biggest concern was that [the bill] would raise rates in rural areas," Burton said.

Burton said the bill is designed to keep monopolies from taking over the industry. He believes uncontrolled competition in rural areas would raise rates.

"We have many safeguards built into the bill to keep these rates as low as possible," Burton said. "This will prevent monopolies from taking over the industry."

The legislation has been on the horizon since 1984, when AT&T split from the Bells. AT&T had access to long-distance, while the so-called "Baby Bells" set their sights on the local markets.

"I don't think we'll see AT&T come in and take over like they have in the past," Burton said.

He did say that eventually the industry may see some large companies. However, that day might have arrived sooner than expected. Over the past couple of months several large telecommunications companies have merged. Most recently on the East Coast, Bell Atlantic and NYNEX joined forces to ready themselves for the upcoming phone wars. And earlier in the year Missouri's own Southwestern Bell and Pacific Bell combined in the wake of the federal enactment.

The PSC will still have some oversight over telecommunications, enough it says, to keep the basic power of the PSC intact.

"This bill preserves most of the official powers the PSC has had working with these companies," Zobrist said.

However, a Senate opponent believes the bill undercuts the PSC and thereby harms the consumer.

Sen. John Schneider (D-Florissant) was one of only five senators who voted against SB 507. Schneider was also a co-sponsor of the bill. He calls the bill "anti-competitive" and said he would have been for it if several amendments he offered had been adopted.

"There were several amendments I offered that would have corrected the problems I have with the bill," Schneider said.

The bill, he said, limits "effective competition" by being "weighted too heavily against major [long-distance] phone companies."

Schneider said the PSC's duties would be quelled by the legislation.

"I think the PSC should have the flexibility in the best interest of the public."

He said he doesn't know if the legislation will have that dramatic of an effect on consumers, but he didn't rule out the possibility.

"That remains to be seen," he said.

The Missouri bill has been far less controversial than the federal act. In July, lawmakers in the nation's capital were deluged with telegrams supposedly from constituents urging them to vote against the federal rewrite. Congressmen became leery about the 600,000 telegrams because of the complex nature of the bill. It turned out many telegrams were fraudulent and had been sent by a group hired by Competitive Long Distance Coalition, according to a Washington Post report.

**66**

This bill preserves most of the official powers the PSC has had working with these companies.

Karl Zobrist  
PSC chairman

66

### School bus drivers age limit no longer at 70

Missouri school bus drivers soon may be able to drive well into their golden years if a recent Senate bill receives the governor's signature.

State law previously limited the age of bus drivers at 70, but a proposed law drafted by Sen. Larry Rohrbach (R-California) has been approved by both houses lifting the age limit.

The key concern of backers of the bill was that rural areas had a difficult time finding drivers. Rep. Gracia Backer (D-New Bloomfield) believes rural districts should be allowed to employ drivers they believe are competent regardless of age. The bill also requires drivers to pass a road test and physical every three years.

### Out-of-state police could pursue across borders

Police officers from all points around Missouri soon may have authority to make drunk-driving pursuits into the Show-Me State.

Previous law only allowed pursuit by out-of-state law enforcement when they believed a felony was being committed. Drunk driving in Missouri is considered a Class B misdemeanor. Officers also have a Class C misdemeanor in their discretion, which is driving with excessive blood alcohol content. The bill is now awaiting the signature of the governor after being delivered to his office Monday.

States affected are Arkansas, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Tennessee.

MISSOURI SENATE

# Mathewson mum about next year

By J.L. GRIFFIN  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Leadership changes may be on the horizon next session in the Missouri Senate.

The Senate has been presided over by Sen. Jim Mathewson (D-Sedalia) as president pro tem since 1989. According to an aide in the Senate, there is an unwritten Senate rule that decrees a senator should not be seated as president pro tem longer than eight years.

If Mathewson abides by this kangaroo law, this should be his last year.

"I'm not going to talk about that," he said. "I am a candidate for the 21st senatorial district—write that."

Even though Mathewson won't discuss his plans for the next session, many around the Senate chamber believe he won't seek the office next year.

So far, only one senator has stepped up and voiced his plans to seek the spot.

Sen. Bill McKenna (D-Barnhart) has thrown his hat into the ring, and the ring isn't getting crowded.

"If I'm going to be up here, I might as well go out in here with my head held high," he said.

McKenna said he had heard rumblings of some other senators wishing for the seat, but no one has come forward. McKenna has two years in his term left after this session ends. He was elected to the

Senate by a special election in 1993, and because of term limits cannot be elected to another full four-year term.

McKenna said there has been discussion about the seat between Mathewson and himself.

"He didn't discourage me or encourage me," McKenna said.

Of course, McKenna's appointment all hinges upon whether the Democrats still control the Senate after the November elections. The Democrats have held a firm grasp of the Senate since 1949.

The last time the Republicans held a majority in the Senate was during World War II. Sen. M.C. Matthes (R-Hillsboro) was president pro tem at that time.

## BLOWIN' IN THE WIND



J.L. GRIFFIN/The Chart

Members of Stoutland High School's jazz band try to perform for an audience attending Wednesday's Mental Health Awareness Day, but the wind often blew harder than the group of musicians.



## EDITOR'S COLUMN

## Ragtopia: Sports car euphoria

I have always been a car enthusiast, and in recent years I've noticed a pattern in the way I scan the used-car classifieds: If it's not a convertible, it has to be really special before I'll take serious interest.

Ragtops hold a special place in my heart, especially rear-wheel-

drive ones. Why such an interest in topless vehicles?

I don't know, but from before the time I owned my first MGB at age 14, I've loved them. Even if they're only just a



**Leslie Roberts**  
Education Editor

lawn ornament, as the MGB was for most of the time I owned it, they're still fun to sit in and stare up at the stars on a balmy summer's night.

But once you get rolling, as I did with my first Miata, there's even more fun to be discovered around the next corner.

One Sunday just before school started last year, I decided to go to Stockton Lake to stockpile some memories for the winter. I stopped at a gas station to get a six-pack of Pepsi, and before I left I had demonstrated the workings of the top and the ignition switch to three little boys, still resplendent in their Sunday school outfits.

If it hadn't been for their mother, I might still be there. But she herded them into her Fairlane, and off I went to explore the curvy roads around Lake Stockton.

Wishing there was a banner across the windshield proclaiming the Miata "The Pretty-Good Tanning Machine," (as opposed to BMW's Ultimate Tanning Machine), I went up and down, down and around, until I came to the end of the road that turned into a large parking area and dock overlooking the lake. A few serene moments were spent looking across the lake and re-applying sunscreen, and off I went again.

In a busy life, experiences such as this are few and far between. But a convertible just seems to make everyday life special, also.

With the top down, one notices the pleasant smells in the air, such as the aroma of burgers and fries in the air at midday, or lilacs in bloom at a farmhouse passed by.

This can be a curse, too—stuck in traffic next to a loaded cattle semi or behind a "gross polluter" vehicle—but on the whole, one can get away from those unpleasanties rather easily.

The wide-open visibility is also a wonderful thing. I can't explain why, but it just lifts my spirits in drive with the top down on a moonlit night, or on a brilliant sunny day. It gives me a sense of freedom to drive without the hindrance of a top.

People can see you more clearly, too, which might be wonderful if you're beautiful and like to be seen.

Having given up on any semblance of an attractive hairdo after seven years of being buffeted by the wind, I wouldn't have any comment on that. Yet still, some trucks are indiscriminate, and I have been startled more than once by a big diesel honking at me!

People also tend to talk to you more than if you were all closed away in an air-conditioned box made of glass and steel. I guess the point I'm trying to make here is that a convertible, especially a sports car, is more than a car. It's a lifestyle. □

## MOTORSPORT

## Autocrossing provides cheap thrills for drivers

By **LESLIE ROBERTS**  
EDUCATION EDITOR

If you like revving your engine and squealing your tires, then autocrossing might be a sport you can enjoy.

An autocross consists of a miniature road course set up with pylons in a large, empty parking lot or some other large paved facility, such as an airport. Each driver gets to drive the course four times, attempting to handle the course quicker than the rest of the class. The Sports Car Club of America, which sanctions most events, has a class for almost any type of automobile making so drivers of Caprice Classics don't have to compete against Corvette drivers.

Since only one car is on the course at any given time, autocrossing is a relatively safe form of motorsport. Before a car can be autocrossed, all loose

objects must be removed from the vehicle, and it must pass a basic safety inspection. While on the course, the driver must use a seat belt and wear a helmet with a Snell rating of at least 85.

Incoming drivers can usually borrow a helmet while deciding whether to make the sport a hobby. Also, a "street tire" class is available for drivers who aren't ready to spend the money for racing tires.

Entry fees for each event usually range from \$10-\$15.

The low cost associated with the sport has aided the sport's growth because local events' only prizes are compliments and admiration from other drivers.

Bill Stewart, a veteran autocrosser and member of the Kansas City Region of the SCCA, understands that fame and fortune are rare occurrences in autocrossing.

"SCCA stands for Secret Car Club of America," he said.

Once a driver has found the nearest SCCA chapter, he must not only pay an entry fee, but he'll be put to work, also.

Working a heat, which usually consists of about 10 cars at the local level, consists of standing around with a fire extinguisher and a red flag watching the cars run the course. If any pylons are knocked over in a person's section of the course, it's that person's job to set the pylons back where they belong.

If an accident of some sort occurs, the fire extinguisher and the red flag come into play, but, more often than not, those tools are not used.

Each car gets four runs per event, and the best time earns points toward a seasonal trophy.

Most of the area's racing takes place in and around Kansas City, but there are also groups around Joplin including the Ozark Region of the SCCA. □



LEFT: Don Corey tears around the course April 14 in his Corvair. RIGHT: Fred Bybee advises his wife, Sharon, on the easiest way to navigate the course. Fred had driven the course earlier in the first heat.



ELBERT CUSTINE/Special to the Chart

Bill Stewart replaces the tires on his 50/50 Racing Celica with racing tires. Stewart receives no sponsorship money for stickers on his car.

## MOTORSPORT

## Buhr family has serious case of kart racing 'fever'

By **LESLIE ROBERTS**  
EDUCATION EDITOR

Kart racing is a family affair for the Buhr family of Neosho. "We started in about '80 at Joplin 4-State Raceway," said Pat Buhr. "We basically started there through a friend who had a kart up there and let us try it out, and then we got the fever."

After buying a kart of their own, the fever only got worse, she said.

"There were three of us kids, and Dad started driving it, and pretty much one kart turned into four," Buhr said. "That happened pretty quickly. At one time all three of us kids, my Dad, and a couple of friends of ours were all on a racing team. We had about seven or eight karts, and we'd take them to races all over the place."

The team started out racing on small tracks such as Joplin's 4-State Raceway.

"We started from Joplin doing little sprint car tracks like that," Buhr said. "Then we moved into what we call street racing, that is, Grand Prix style. What they basically do is take city streets and block them off to make a track."

There are racing magazines that cover the sport in the United States, and even an international magazine.

"They do this a lot in Europe," Buhr said. "This is how all the Indy-car drivers, formula car drivers, and NASCAR drivers get started. It's a good foundation to get into bigger things, and hopefully, while you're doing all these little things, like kart racing and the like, somebody big will notice you and put you in a bigger car."

The Buhr family has had its share of trophies in the 10 years it has been racing, and George Buhr Jr. was honored in 1992 by being invited to race and represent the U.S. in Russia.

"They raced on ice, basically," Pat Buhr said. "They're not as sophisticated with it, but they have a racing program over there which I thought was great, because they're so poor over there. You'd think they wouldn't have the money to get into things like that."

There are various associations which sanction the events, including the World Karting Association and the International Karting Federation.

"They'll set up regions around the United States, and a region will include a large area where everyone will get together at the big tracks and race against each other. There is a points championship at the end of the year, and we have nationals once a year," she said. "All the top dogs in the United States come and race against each other, and that's really exciting and really competitive, because it's the best of the best."

The family has come close to winning a national championship—very close, according to Pat Buhr's mother, Sandra Buhr.

"We haven't won a national championship yet, but we've come in second," Sandra Buhr said, indicating a distance of about three inches with her hands. "[We lost by] 30/100th of a second. You lose when you get second, because you go there to be first."

George Buhr Jr. is the family's dominant driver now.



BUHR FAMILY/Special to The Chart



BUHR FAMILY/Special to The Chart

ABOVE: George Buhr, Jr., behind No. 21, racing his No. 7 kart amid tough competition. Kart racers wear leather driving suits, protective gloves, and helmets to minimize their risk of injury.

RIGHT: Buhr works on his engine in the team's shaded pit area. Unlike teams who only race in Missouri area, the Buhr family races during winter in the southern United States.

"He's got a few Region 8 championships, and he's won Grand Prix races," Pat Buhr said. "He does pretty well. When he goes to an event, he usually takes at least one top-five finish. That's pretty good, because you get a lot of competition out there."

Pat Buhr and her sister, Dorothy Beaver, used to race also, but both have retired.

"When my sister and I were racing, we were among a handful that raced," Pat Buhr said. "I don't know if it's that women don't want to get their hands dirty, or what."

"It does take a lot of physical strength to drive the

faster [karts]," she said. "You'd be amazed at the power of those engines. Some of the faster ones can approach 110 miles per hour, 120 miles per hour, and that's a lot to hold on to, even for a man. My sister Dottie was particularly good at it. She won a couple of Grand Prix events, and she did really well."

On a typical race weekend, the family will leave on a Thursday afternoon or Friday morning and come back in the early hours of Sunday morning.

"And then we have to try to drag ourselves in to work on Monday, but we love it," Pat Buhr said. "We wouldn't do anything else." □

## AUTOMOTIVE SPOTLIGHT

## Kearney enjoys 1977 MGB roadster

By **LESLIE ROBERTS**  
EDUCATION EDITOR

Restoring any low-cost car is a labor of love, because usually the parts and effort exceed what the car is worth. However, Tom Kearney, custodian in Webster Hall, has managed to restore his 1977 MGB and stay ahead of the game.

"I've got about \$4,500 in it, and I could probably get that much back out of it, so I just count all the driving as free," he said.

The body was relatively straight when Kearney bought it, and he believes that's part of the reason he was able to restore it without spending much money.

"And, you know, I can get as many looks with this car as with the Corvette I used to have," he said.

Kearney has two other vehicles he can drive if the weather is less than perfect.

"If it's a nice day I'll drive the MGB," he said.

The Abingdon, England, factory produced more than half a million MGBs, counting both roadsters and the MGB-GT hardtop version, which was introduced in 1965. According to *50 Years of Classic Cars* by Jonathan Wood, Rostyle wheels, such as the ones on Kearney's car, appeared in 1970, and the urethane bumper was added in 1975 so the car could pass American safety regulations. The MGB and its variations remained in production until 1980. □



LESLIE ROBERTS/The Chart

Tom Kearney's 1977 MGB possesses urethane bumpers, which are characteristic of post-1975 cars. It also has Rostyle wheels.



SOFTBALL

Lady Lions complete sweep with rally

By P. NICHOLAS PARKER  
SPORTS EDITOR

A four-run rally in the sixth inning of the second game gave the Lady Lions a two-game sweep over Northeastern (Okla.) State University Wednesday afternoon at Kungie Field.

Missouri Southern (40-6, 15-1) won the double-header 4-1 and 4-2.

"It was a great comeback today," said head coach Pat Lipira. "I wouldn't say this was a great hitting game because we really only had two hits going into the sixth inning. It was a great rally; I was really pleased with that rally."

Lipira said her team performed well offensively.

"We did a lot of good things like executing suicide squeezes and some hit and runs," she said. "We did some good things to score runs."

The Lady Lions head into the post-season conference tournament this weekend in Shawnee, Kan., carrying a first-place ranking in the

South-Central Region and No. 6 national ranking.

Freshman shortstop Pam Brewer said hitting is going to be the key to Southern's success this weekend.

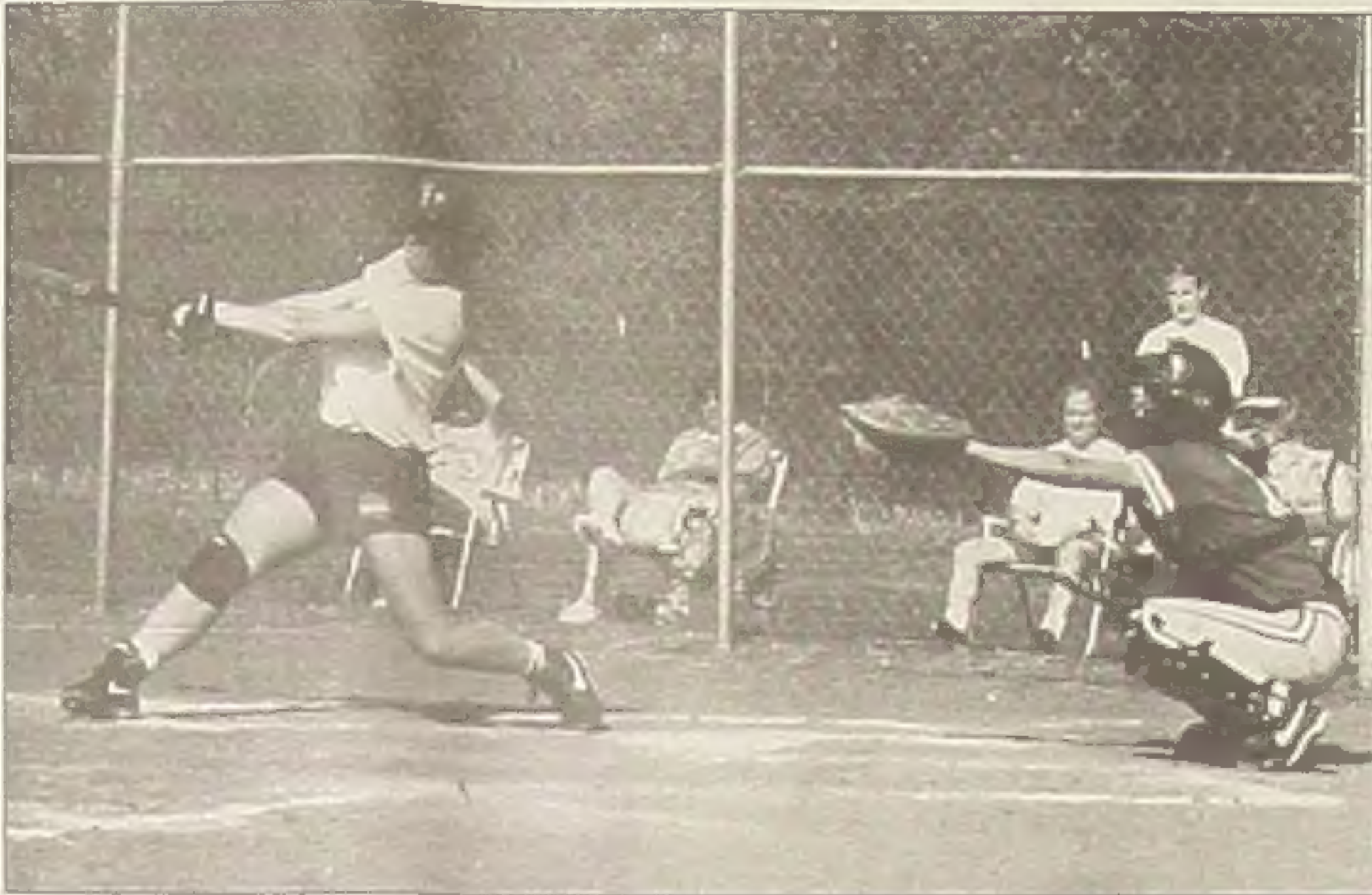
"Our hitting has to be there; we have to come out and get ahead," she said. "We have a really strong chance of hitting well. The only problems we've had have been against Central [Missouri State]."

Lipira said the Lady Lions must seize scoring opportunities against dominating teams like Central Missouri State.

"You're going to have one opportunity to move the runner or get a sacrifice fly, and you've got to jump on it because you're not going to get a bunch of opportunities," she said.

"The other key is, you are going to get one strike while you're batting and you better hit it, because if you don't she's going to throw nothing but rise-balls and change-ups and you'll be off-balance."

Southern's first tournament match-up is against Missouri Western (7-9, 23-21) at noon Friday. □



Senior Melissa Grider fouls off a pitch against Northeastern (Okla.) State University Wednesday. The Lady Lions swept the doubleheader 4-1, 4-2. The MIAA championships begin Friday in Shawnee Kan.

Sports SCOPE

Future foretold in crystal ball

While on a brief sabbatical last week, I ran into a gypsy. Since Missouri Southern athletics is always at the front of my mind, I asked if she could tell me the future for our spring sports.

Well folks, here's how she sees it. The first image to appear in the gypsy's ball was of head softball coach Pat Lipira and her Lady Lions doing their routine team cheer before a game. The odd part was, I didn't recognize the field. It wasn't the team's home field or any other MIAA field.

As the gypsy and I traveled further into the image, we learned why this wasn't just a normal Lady Lion team. This was a team in the NCAA Division II national tournament. Sadly, though, I just didn't see them as the national champions.

The Lady Lions are currently ranked first in the South-Central Region and sixth in the nation. Standing 15-1 in the conference and 38-6 overall, Southern has positioned itself for a shot at the national tournament.

After losing some of last season's sticks, many thought the Lady Lions would struggle in their efforts to get runners across the plate. Lipira said before the season her team was going to depend on pitching and defense to make up for its lack of power.

Surprisingly, Southern is leading the MIAA in scoring, averaging 6.5 runs per game with a .344 team average heading into the MIAA tournament Friday and Saturday in Shawnee, Kan.

Leading the Lady Lion arsenal is senior catcher Ginger Daniel, hitting .440, and sophomore second baseman Jenni Jimerson at .424.

Southern also leads the conference in fielding and pitching.

Some are probably asking what I saw in that ball of magic that would stop our team from going all the way. Southern's bats seemed to fizzle out against the tough competition found at the national level.

The Lady Lions have had some problems against the big pitchers. Southern was only able to scratch out two runs in its double-header sweep of Central Missouri State.

In order to win against the top teams, Southern will have to keep its bats hot and find a way to score against the nation's best.

This first image lasted only a short while. The next image I saw was of the Lions' baseball team. My vision was of them traveling home in one of the lovely Southern vans from Friday and Saturday's conference tournament at Washburn University.

Good news, guys: the van makes it home without a hitch.

And a side note, so do you.

In the friendly gypsy's magic crystal was the clear image of Missouri Southern as the MIAA champions.

But now the time for predictions has passed, and in the days ahead the softball and baseball programs' heroics will be played through our eyes and not some gypsy's crystal ball.

Next week: Winners of the 11th annual LePage-Smith Awards will be unveiled in this



P. Nicholas Parker  
Sports Editor

MIAA Conference Showdowns			
SOFTBALL		BASEBALL	
Central Missouri	VS.	Missouri-Rolla	
15-1, 35-9		6-10, 27-18	
Pittsburg State	VS.	Washburn	
12-4, 35-20		9-7, 29-17	
Emporia State	VS.	Missouri-St. Louis	
10-6, 32-18		8-8, 12-18	
Missouri Southern	VS.	Missouri Western	
15-1, 40-6		7-9, 17-23	
All games played in Shawnee, Kan.			

BASEBALL

Baxter shortstop signs with Lions

By RYAN BRONSON  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

With the loss of 11 seniors pending the conclusion of the season, Missouri Southern baseball coach Warren Turner showcased a big smile when he heard Baxter Springs' Bradley Smith was going to be a Lion.

Smith, a 5-foot-10, 165-pound shortstop, grew up playing baseball at Missouri Southern baseball camps. Currently, the senior is hitting .579

with 10 home runs in just 10 games for the Baxter High School Lions.

"He's probably a Division I player," Turner said. "We think he's going to start as a freshman. He's just a good athlete. He loves the game."

Smith said one reason he chose Southern was that his coach, Scott Madden, played on the 1992 Lion College World Series team.

"[Another reason is] the reputation that Missouri Southern has as being winners," Smith said. "It will

be different [than high school baseball], but I'll work on it. Hopefully, I'll be successful."

Turner said he will be recruiting several pitchers from junior colleges in the off-season. Although Smith is a good high school pitcher, Turner said he probably wouldn't use him in that fashion.

In fact, the Lions have a talented sophomore shortstop, Bobby Braeckel, and Smith will more than likely play second base or third base, Turner said. □

BASEBALL

Lions take victory into MIAA tourney

By RYAN BRONSON  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Heading into the MIAA tournament this weekend in Topeka, Kan., Missouri Southern head baseball coach Warren Turner has just one thing on his mind—perfect baseball.

The Lions (12-6 in MIAA, 30-20 overall) dropped three of four games at Pittsburg State (11-7, 23-23) last weekend, falling to No. 2 in the South Division seeding. The Lions open the tournament against Northwest Missouri State, the No. 3 seed from the North Division, at 2 p.m. Friday. The winner will take on the winner of the Central Missouri-Lincoln matchup at 5 p.m.

"When you get to this point, you have to play errorless baseball," Turner said.

"Good sound baseball in every avenue. The teams that do that will win."

"Every play is important now," Turner said his team probably will have to win the conference tournament to qualify for the Division II College World Series, but he was

not disappointed with the draw.

"We've beat [Northwest] three times in three games this season," Turner said. "All the games were close. It will be a good ballgame."

Senior right-hander Dwayne Walters (5-6, 4.34 ERA) beat the Bearcats 5-0 on April 9th and will start on the mound for the Lions.

If the Lions win, Turner said Shon Burns (2-0, 4.29 ERA) will likely start the second game regardless of the opponent.

"I'm just happy we're in," Turner said. "CMSU is probably the favorite. They've got a big team that can hit the ball out of the ballpark."

In Sunday's game Missouri Southern beat Pittsburg State 16-5. Senior southpaw Andy Hill improved his record to 6-3 as the Lions secured the No. 2 seed in the South Division of the conference tournament.

Walters went 4-for-5 with two RBIs and scored three times for Southern.

Teammate Brad Ward had four RBIs, two on a fourth-inning home run and two on a double in the fifth. □

TRACK & FIELD

Southern runners tune up for conference showdown

By JASON OWEN  
STAFF WRITER

With the conference meet just two weeks away, the Missouri Southern track teams tuned up at Central Missouri State and the University of Kansas last weekend.

"We used last weekend as a rest weekend," said Tom Rutledge,

men's track coach, "and a weekend to put some people in races they don't usually run."

"It helps when a runner can compete in races that are longer or shorter than what they are used to. I really think it did some good."

"[Senior Jason] Ramsey's Achilles is still bothering him, and we really needed to rest him," Rutledge said. "This weekend let

us do that. It also gave us an opportunity to see some good competition in Kansas, and good competition makes us run better."

Rutledge said he was impressed with some of his stronger athletes.

"Paul Baker ran a great 800-meter race and finished fifth at a Division I meet, and Jon Wilks also had a good day, taking third in the 3,000-meter steeple. Anytime you

can run against [I] competition, it really makes you better."

The Lady Lions' track team tuned up much like the men.

Freshman sprinter Heather Hoyle finished first in the 200-meter run, second in the 100 meters, and sixth in the 400 meters.

Her 200-meter time was pushing Southern's school record. Hoyle

was named track athlete of the meet.

"We had some really good showings this weekend," said Patty Vavra, women's track coach. "Michelle Heimerman took first in the hammer, third in the discus, and sixth in the shot."

Heimerman posted personal bests in the discus and shot and was named field athlete of the meet. □

Southern Scoreboard

Baseball				Softball			
MIAA Standings 4/21		LION STATS		MIAA Standings 4/21		LADY LION STATS	
North	conf. W L T	overall W L T		North	conf. W L T	overall W L T	
Central Missouri (18)	16 2 0	35 10 0		Central Missouri (12)	15 1 0	35 9 0	
Emporia State	12 7 0	27 13 0		Emporia State	10 6 0	32 18 0	
Northwest Missouri	9 9 0	26 17 0		Washburn	6 7 0	29 17 0	
Washburn	7 10 0	27 22 0		Missouri Western	7 9 0	23 21 0	
Missouri Western	7 10 0	21 20 0		Northwest Missouri	7 9 0	17 23 0	
Northeast Missouri	2 15 0	12 36 1		Northwest Missouri	4 12 0	11 21 0	
South	conf. W L T	overall W L T		South	conf. W L T	overall W L T	
Missouri-St. Louis (9)	13 4 0	31 5 0		Missouri Southern (5)	15 1 0	38 9 0	
Missouri Southern (5)	12 6 0	30 29 0		Pittsburg State	12 4 0	36 20 0	
Pittsburg State	11 7 0	23 23 0		Missouri-Rolla	6 10 0	27 18 0	
Lincoln	8 8 1	18 22 4		Missouri-St. Louis	6 8 0	12 18 0	
Missouri-Rolla	6 11 1	14 23 1		Southwest Baptist	3 13 0	7 30 0	
Southwest Baptist	4 16 0	12 40 0		Lincoln	0 16 0	4 32 0	

The scores, stats, and numbers every Lions fan should know.

Date, Time, and Place	
Thursday	
Tennis	
•Lady Lions at MIAA Championships in St. Louis, TBA	
Friday	
Baseball	
•Lions vs. Northwest, at Washburn, 2 p.m.	
Softball	
•Lady Lions vs. Western, at Shawnee Kansas, Noon	
Saturday	
Baseball	
•Lions at Pittsburg State, TBA.	
Sunday	
Baseball	
•Lions at Pittsburg State, TBA.	





# Special STARS

□ On April 19, Missouri Southern's Hughes Stadium was overwhelmed with pride and a competitive spirit as it housed the seven-county region's 23rd annual Special Olympics.

## Area athletes, volunteers take part in competition

By DEBORAH SOLOMON  
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Olympic spirit was in the air Friday as more than 1,700 people were on hand at Fred G. Hughes Stadium for the seven-county region's 23rd annual Special Olympics.

"The Special Olympians have a great time. It is a significant day in their lives, and we wanted to make that special day even more special," Missouri Southern head football coach Jon Lantz said.

Lantz, one of the event's organizers, said the Southern volunteers helped make it a success.

"I was very pleased with the number of volunteers coming from the student body," he said. "We had a lot of last-minute volunteers; this is a great outreach for the school."

Pam White, director of the games committee, praised the 1,000-plus volunteers and coaches who helped with the 675 Olympians. White said the events are special to all of the Olympians.

"Someone told me they ran into one of the athletes two days after the Olympics and he was still wearing his ribbons," she said. "That is what the day means to them."

“

Someone told me they ran into one of the athletes two days after the Olympics and he was still wearing his ribbons. That is what the day means to them.

Pam White  
Director, games committee

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First-, second-, and third-place finishers advance to the state competition May 16-18 at Ft. Leonard Wood.

The annual event was created in 1968 by Eunice Kennedy Shriver and the Joseph P. Kennedy Jr. Foundation to give the developmentally disabled year-round sports training and competition in several Olympic-type events. □



FAR LEFT: Dustin Turk, Mt. Vernon, celebrates a winning effort in the softball throw.

ABOVE: Steven Watkins, Cassville, clears the high jump with room to spare at Friday's competition.

LEFT: Tetum Hawkins edges out Tiffany Chaney, both from Butler, to take first place in the 50-meter dash.

BELOW: Scott Johnson gives the softball throw his best shot.

Photos by  
DEBORAH SOLOMON

